IM
Graat Priest Imhotep
1
MAKOTO
MORISHITA

IM
Great Priest Imhotep
1
MAKOTO
MORISHITA

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Great Priest Imhotep

WAKE IMHO-TEP.
THE GODS COM-MAND IT.
OUR POWER IS NO LONGER ENOUGH TO CONTAIN THE SITUATION.
WE CAN WASTE NO TIME.
WE MUST WAKE THAT MAN AND MAKE HIM PURGE THE MAGA!
ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE GODS WILL ALLOW THIS!?
ARE YOU CERTAIN, HEAD PRIEST ...!?
SLAM

TAKE ME TO THEM!
WHERE ARE THE MAGAI!?

O...O, IMHOTEP!!
BY DECREE OF THE GODS, YOU ARE TASKED WITH PURGING THE MAGAI...
MAGAI ...?
THE MAGAI ARE ALL MINE ...!!
KATHOOM

ポポ
BEEP
ポッ
BIP
ポン
BOOP
BEEEP
IT'S TIME FOR THE TWELVE O'CLOCK NEWS.
ガバッ
GASSH!!

ベったり…
GLOOP
BOOONG
キーン
SWING
GLANCE
キョロ
BONNNG
キョロ
GLANCE
SAAANG
ROAR
ガリ
CRISPY
ギャアアア…

HAWAKATA-SAN!
AHHHM!
DON'T EAT OUT THERE ALL ALONE. LET'S HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER!
!!
SKRIT
OH! I'M IN YOUR CLASS. MY NAME IS...
I MEAN, WE SHOULD START HIGH SCHOOL OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT AND ALL!
EAT WITH ME?
LET'S HIT THE CAFETE RIA!
SURE!
D'WE NEED ANOTHER DESK?
EWW, WHAT DID SHE GIVE YOU!?
HUH? WAIT! HAWA-KATA-SAN!?
RAFF
SHNOOP

UGH, YUCK! THROW THAT AWAY QUICK BEFORE IT CURSES YOU!
CURSES ME?
YEAH. SHE'S INFAMOUS AMONG THE LOCAL KIDS.
Ignore me. You'll get burned.
TWINKLE
Oooo
HINOME HAWAKATA.
HER FAMILY'S BEEN COLLECTORS OF THE OCCULT FOR GENERATIONS... EVER SINCE THE MEIJI PERIOD OR SOMETHING?
ANYWAY, EVERYBODY ALWAYS SAYS THAT THE WHOLE FAMILY'S CURSED.
BUT THE SPOOKIEST STORY ABOUT THEM IS THIS UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENON FROM EIGHT YEARS AGO!
THAT GIRL SUDDENLY COUGHED UP SMOKE AND COLLAPSED ...
THEY SAY THAT'S HOW SHE LOST HER VOICE.

...WHO SAW HER LITERALLY BREATHING FIRE.
AND RUMOR HAS IT THERE WAS A WITNESS...
...AND SHE'S AN ICE QUEEN, TO BOOT.
SHE GIVES ME THE CREEPS ...
OKAY, SO THE LAST BIT MIGHT BE MADE UP, BUT I'D STILL KEEP MY DISTANCE. BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.
SIIING
BONNNG
BAAANG
DON'T ASK ME.
IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN ANSWER YOU ANYWAY.
SCRATCH
I WONDER HOW MUCH OF THE RUMORS'RE TRUE?
I HEAR SHE'S GOT AN AWFUL BURN UNDER THERE.
SHE'S ALWAYS WEARIN' THAT SCARF.
DUDE, CAN YOU SERIOUSLY GET HER CURSE FROM HEARING HER VOICE?

I MEAN, ONE PEEP OUT OF ME...
...AND EVERYTHING HERE WOULD INSTANTLY GO UP IN A SEA OF FLAMES.
GET BACK HERE, KID!!
STOP! THIEF!
SOME-BODY CATCH HIM!!
!!
I JUST WANNA BE LEFT ALONE.

WHOMP

HE SLAMMED INTO A GIRL!
SKIIID
HEY! SOMEBODY CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!
A BOY GOT HIT BY A CAR!

!?
CRACK
グキッ

!!!
もぞ
STIR
FLUSSH
SOFT
.....?
?

SCREECH
FOOL! DO YOU WISH TO BURN ALL AND SUNDRY HERE TO DEATH?
GUMP
THAT'S THE THIEF!!
DIDN'T HE GET HIT BY A CAR...?
!?
YANK
MM. THIS DOES NOT BODE WELL. WE MUST FLEE!!
!?
YOU...
...ARE POS-SESSED BY A MAGAI, AREN'T YOU?

GUIDE ME TO A SAFE HAVEN, WHERE THEY CANNOT FOLLOW.
!!?
YOU, GIRL.

I WAS ASTONISHED TO LEARN THAT YOU ARE NOT EVEN PERMITTED TO BATHE IN THE RIVERS.
EEEEEK!
HM?
THRASH
FLAIL
~!

METAL CHARIOTS RUSH AROUND EVERY WHICH WAY.
ONE MAY BUY THINGS WITH SCRAPS OF PAPYRUS, YET NOT WITH PIECES OF GOLD.
THIS IS A CURIOUS LAND.
IT IS A WORLD FULL OF UNKNOWNS, MUCH UNLIKE MY HOMELAND.

IF WE ARE CAUGHT, YOU CANNOT SPEAK IN YOUR DEFENSE WITH THAT MOUTH OF YOURS, CAN YOU?
THIS IS UNFORTUNATE.
!!

WHAT WILL YOU DO?
SO?

SADLY FOR YOU, IT SEEMS YOU HAVE BEEN EMBROILED IN THIS MISUNDERSTANDING.
WHEE!
PAY ME!
SHAKE
WHO'S THAT GIRL? HIS ACCOMPLICE!?
GET BACK HERE!! PAY FOR WHAT YOU DID TO MY CAR!!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
SHAKE
SHAKE

ドオオオオオ!!
*HER HOME
...
WHAT IS THIS DWELLING ...!?
TO STRIKE SUCH INTENSE FEAR INTO THEIR HEARTS...
UWAAAH! IT'S THE HEX HOUSE!
NOT WORTH IT! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!!!
RETREAT
RETREAT
RETREAT
THE WAY IT LOOMS SO OMINOUSLY ...
SKRIT
SKRIT
I LIKE IT!!
!!?
NOW, TO SURVEY ITS INTERIOR...
OPEN
I SHALL CLAIM IT AS MY PALACE!!

WAIT, HUH? WHO'S THIS?
YOUR FRIEND?
HINOME-CHAN! YOU MADE A FRIEND!!?
BABUMP
BABUMP
BABUMP
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
WELCOME HOOOME, HINOME-CHAAAN!
WHUMP
ROOM
I HEREBY CLAIM THIS PLACE AS MY ABODE!
AND WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
GLOW
MY NAME IS IMHOTEP.
I HAVE TRAVERSED TIME FROM THE CAPITAL OF SAND AND GOLD TO ARRIVE AT THIS ISLAND NATION.
HM.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? UNHAND ME, INSOLENT GIRL.
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY ...?
WH—
U

INSO-
LENT
GIIIIRL
!!!!
HANDS
OFFFFF
!!!
BOOM
CHIK
"IMHO-
TEP"...
...YOU
SAY
...?
?!
SQUISH
SQUISH
SQUISH
SQUISH
SQUISH
BUT TO
THINK
THAT HE
TRULY
EXISTED
ALL
ALONG
...!!!!
THERE
CAN ONLY
BE ONE
IMHOTEP-
SAMA!!
BECAUSE
HE VANISHES
SUDDENLY FROM
HISTORY AND HIS
TOMB HAS YET
TO BE FOUND,
HE WAS
CONSIDERED A
FICTIONAL
FIGURE...
HE'S ONE OF
THE GREATEST
MYSTERIES OF
ANCIENT EGYPT!
THIS IS THE
LEGENDARY
GREAT PRIEST WHO
WAS SAID TO
BE A GOD!
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT
RANT

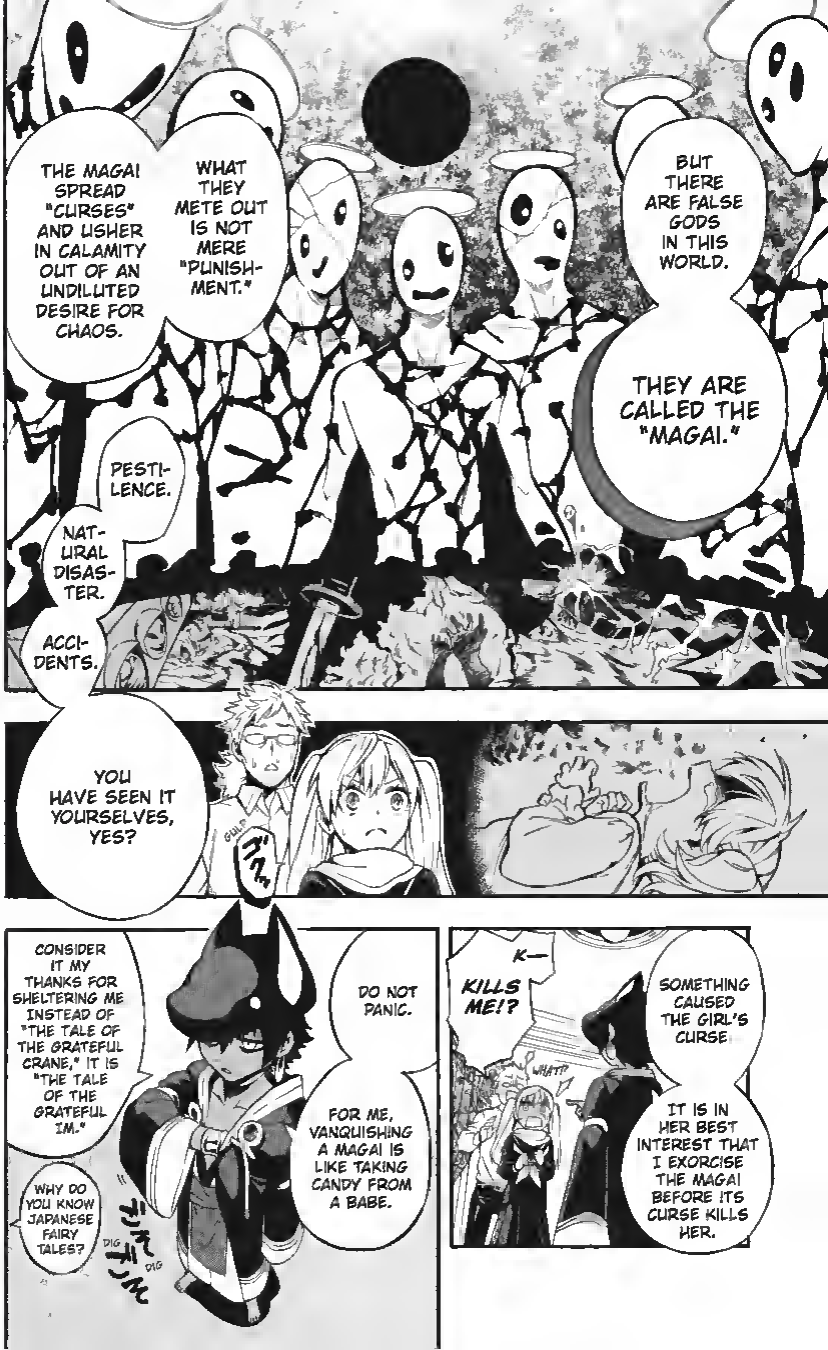
PLEASE, RELAX AND MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!!
SLAAM
WELCOME TO OUR HUMBLE ABODE!
!!?
AT HOME
I COULD NOT BE MORE HONORED, O GREAT IMHOTEP-SAMA!
SPLENDID.
I AM SPENT FROM MY LONG JOURNEY.
YOU ARE A THOUGHTFUL MAN, WHOEVER-YOU-ARE. I PRAISE YOU.
MASSAGE
もみ
COME CLOSER. YOU NEED NOT BE AFRAID.
?
INCH
I MUST GIVE MY THANKS TO YOU AS WELL, GIRL.
HM. I ALMOST FORGOT.

BFFT!
BAM!
?!
YANK
GRAB
WELL? THAT SHOULD ALLOW YOU TO...
WINE WEAKENS CURSES.
GRAB
GRAB
RZZT
RZZT
YOU DRAG ME INTO YOUR MESS, AND THEN YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST LET YOURSELF INTO MY HOUSE AND BE ALL "THIS IS MY CASTLE NOW"!?
AND ON TOP OF THAT, YOU TURN MY DAD INTO YOUR SLAVE!? WHO THE HECK DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!?
RZZT
RZZT
RZZT
RZZT
SMATTER
!!PROBLEEEM!?
WHAT IS YOUR...
CRASH

IMHOTEP!? ANCIENT EGYPT!? A LEGENDARY PRIEST!?
OH, PUH-LEEZE!!
BZZT
BZZT
BZZT
BZZT
AS IF SOME GUY FROM THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO WOULD SHOW UP SPEAKING PERFECT JAPANESE! YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, YOU...YOU...
...IIIDIOT!!!!
AND DAD!!
WHAT ARE YOU HITTING IT OFF WITH HIM FOR?
CALL 911! 9-1-1!!
YOU KNOW I CAN'T TALK ON THE PHONE, DON'T YOU!? WHO ELSE IS GONNA DO IT BUT YOU!?
YOU'RE AN ADULT, SO ACT LIKE ONE ALREADY!!
YOU THINK YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!?
CUT IT OUT ALREADY, YOU BIG JERKS !!!!

AH!
H-HINOME-CHAN...?
YOUR VOICE ...!!
HFF...
HFF...
HFF...
HUH?
N-NO WAY.
HUH ...?
I'M... TALKING ...?
SO THIS IS THE POWER OF THE GOOS!!
IT'S A MIRA-CLE!!
THANK HEAVENS!! THANK YOU, IMHOTEP-SAMA!!
IT IS MERELY A TEM-PORARY CHARM.

WH-WHAT IS HE!?
I COULDN'T SPEAK FOR EIGHT WHOLE YEARS, AND ALL THIS GUY HAD TO DO WAS SPIT ON ME...!?
IT IS TOO SOON TO RELAX.
PUAH!
THE MAGAI HAS YET TO BE SUBDUED.
YOU ARE POSSESSED BY A MAGAI, AREN'T YOU?
"MAGAI" ...?
WHAT'S A—
A "MAGAI," NOW!?
AND WHAT EXACTLY IS THAT, IMHOTEP-SAMA!?
SWOOSH
SHOVE
YOU USE THE PHRASE "TO PAY FOR YOUR SINS," YES?
IT REFERS TO WHEN A GOD PUNISHES SOMEONE FOR AN EVIL DEED.
L—
LIKE THIS, YOU MEAN!?
TUG


BUT THERE ARE FALSE GODS IN THIS WORLD.
THEY ARE CALLED THE "MAGAI."
WHAT THEY METE OUT IS NOT MERE "PUNISHMENT."
THE MAGAI SPREAD "CURSES" AND USHER IN CALAMITY OUT OF AN UNDILUTED DESIRE FOR CHAOS.
PESTILENCE.
NATURAL DISASTER.
ACCIDENTS.
YOU HAVE SEEN IT YOURSELVES, YES?
GULP
ゴクン
SOMETHING CAUSED THE GIRL'S CURSE.
IT IS IN HER BEST INTEREST THAT I EXORCISE THE MAGAI BEFORE ITS CURSE KILLS HER.
K—
KILLS ME!?
WHAT!?
DO NOT PANIC.
FOR ME, VANQUISHING A MAGAI IS LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABE.
CONSIDER IT MY THANKS FOR SHELTERING ME INSTEAD OF "THE TALE OF THE GRATEFUL CRANE," IT IS "THE TALE OF THE GRATEFUL IM."
WHY DO YOU KNOW JAPANESE FAIRY TALES?
DIG
ガリガリ
DIG

GURGLE
!!?
BEHOLD ...
GLINT
I AM FAMISHED! A MEAL! PREPARE A MEAL AT ONCE!!
SNAP
DASH
YES, SIR! RIGHT AWAY, SIR!!
HEY!!! DON'T LEAVE US IN SUSPENSE!! WHAT WAS THAT!?
I'VE GOT TO KNOW NOW. FINISH YOUR STORY!!
"GRANDFATHER, GRANDMOTHER, YOU MUST NEVER LOOK INSIDE THIS ROOM..."
NOT "THE GRATEFUL CRANE"!!
WAAAH ... HIC ...!

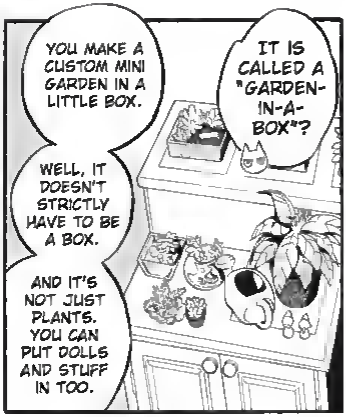
YOU CAN'T EVEN TOUCH ANYTHING SHE'S TOUCHED.
IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE TO HER, YOU'LL CATCH HER CURSE.
EWW, IT'S HINOME.

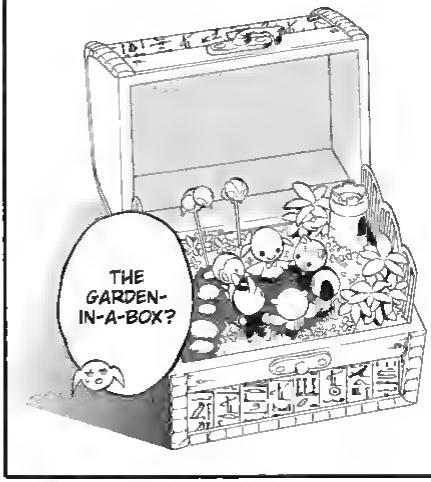
DON'T COME TO SCHOOL! GO AWAY!!
HER DADDY'S WEIRD, ISN'T HE?
SHE CAN'T BE IN OUR GROUP!
MY MOMMY SAID I CAN'T PLAY WITH HER.

ARE YOU ALL ALONE ...?
THEN LET'S MAKE A WORLD THAT'S JUST FOR YOU.

I'M TOLD THIS IS A MAGIC BOX!!

A HAPPY WORLD...
WHAT IS THAT?
A WORLD FILLED WITH ONLY THE THINGS YOU LIKE.
"HEX HOUSE"...ONE WOULD THINK SUCH A PLACE WOULD BE A HOUSE OF HORRORS ...
...BUT IT TURNS OUT THAT IT IS MERELY A HOUSE OF FUN CURIOSITIES.
DON'T BARGE INTO MY ROOM!! UGH, YOU HAVE NO SENSE OF BOUNDARIES!
WHOA!!
IT IS MY RIGHT TO EXPLORE MY PALACE IS IT NOT?
YOU'RE STILL SAYING THAT?
WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT THIS WEIRD STUFF? PEOPLE MAKE UP ALL THESE RUMORS 'COS OF THIS STUPID OLD COLLECTION
IT'S GIVEN ME NOTHING BUT GRIEF!
CLATTER
NOW, GET OUT OF MY ROOM! OUT!
WHAT IS THAT?


IT IS CALLED A "GARDEN-IN-A-BOX"?
YOU MAKE A CUSTOM MINI GARDEN IN A LITTLE BOX.
WELL, IT DOESN'T STRICTLY HAVE TO BE A BOX.
AND IT'S NOT JUST PLANTS. YOU CAN PUT DOLLS AND STUFF IN TOO.


THE GARDEN-IN-A-BOX?

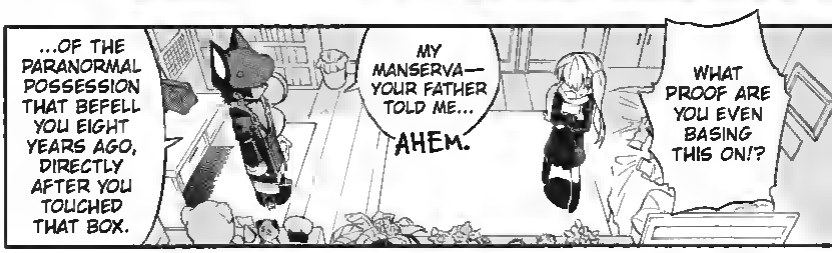
FAS-CINAT-ING.
ISN'T IT!?

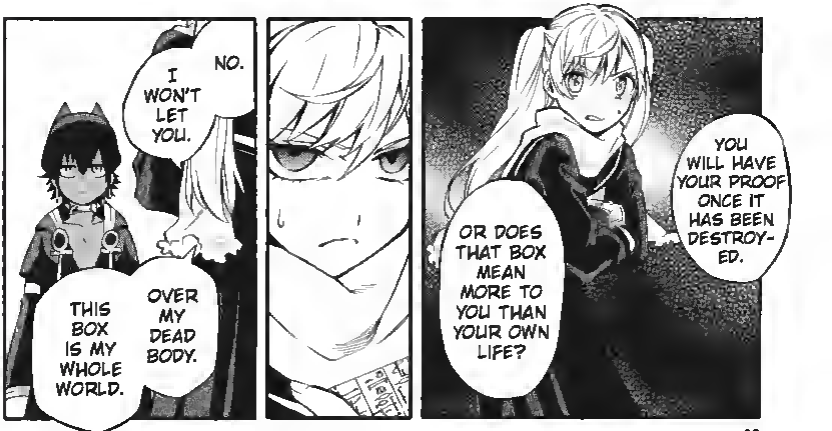
LOOK IF YOU WANT, BUT DON'T YOU TOUCH IT.
.....

THE WORLD IN THE BOX IS A FREE ONE.
WHEN I WORK ON IT, I CAN FORGET ABOUT WHAT'S LONELY AND PAINFUL— ALL OF IT.

DID YOU NOT JUST HEAR ME!?
AND WHY THE HAMMER!?
WIELD
すちゃ
I SEE.
IF YOU SO MUCH AS SCRATCH IT...
...I'LL KILL YOU.
HUG
THIS BOX IS SPECIAL. IT'S MY TREASURE.
IT IS THE SOURCE OF YOUR CURSE.
THE MAGA! THAT STOLE YOUR VOICE AND MADE YOU BREATHE FIRE DWELLS WITHIN IT.
SCRAPE
...HUH?
A-HA... NOW IT MAKES SENSE.
SO THAT IS THE ANCHOR.

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!?
THAT'S DANGER-OUS!!
THE IDEA IS TO DESTROY IT.
I WILL DESTROY IT AND TEAR YOU FROM THE MAGAI'S CLUTCHES!
WHOOM
EEP !!?


WHAT PROOF ARE YOU EVEN BASING THIS ON!?
MY MANSERVA— YOUR FATHER TOLD ME... AHEM.
...OF THE PARANORMAL POSSESSION THAT BEFELL YOU EIGHT YEARS AGO, DIRECTLY AFTER YOU TOUCHED THAT BOX.


YOU WILL HAVE YOUR PROOF ONCE IT HAS BEEN DESTROY-ED.
OR DOES THAT BOX MEAN MORE TO YOU THAN YOUR OWN LIFE?
NO. I WON'T LET YOU.
THIS BOX IS MY WHOLE WORLD.
OVER MY DEAD BODY.

I DON'T HAVE A PLACE IN THE REAL WORLD!!
I CAN'T FIT IN ANYWHERE, OKAY!?
NO!!
YOUR WORLD IS OUT HERE, IS IT NOT?
YOUR WORLD ...?
IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL "FUN"? ENDLESSLY WITHDRAWING INTO YOUR GARDEN-IN-A-BOX?
COWARD.
THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU ARE TOO AFRAID TO OPEN YOUR WORLD TO OTHER PEOPLE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
YOU MAY CREATE YOUR OWN WORLD, BUT IT WILL NOT CHANGE YOUR REALITY.
WHACK

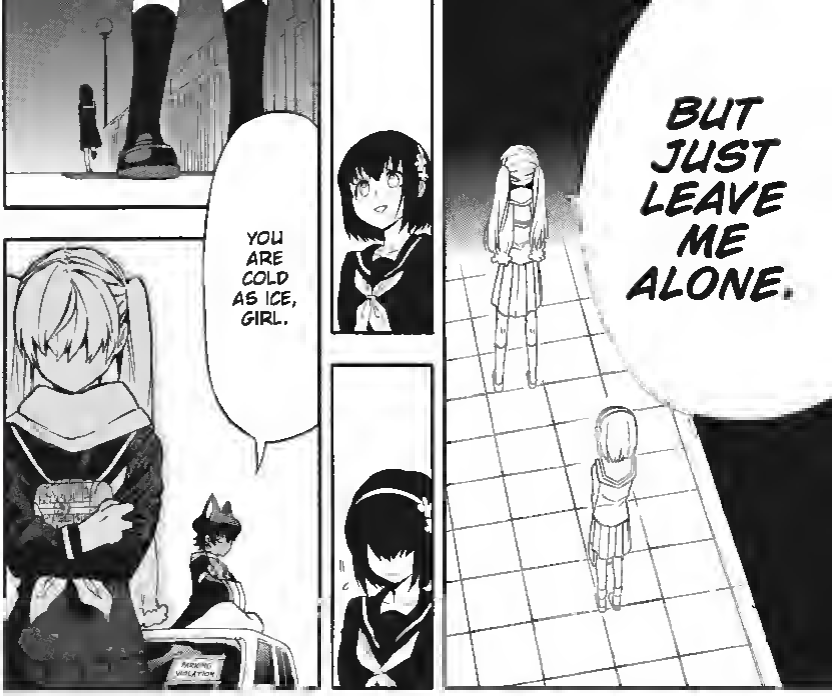
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOU !!?
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
IM-HOTEP-SAMA !!?

?
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
YOUR MEAL IS READY, IMHOTEP-SAMA!

AH
IMHOTEP-SAMAAAAAA!

WHAT WOULD YOU UNDER-STAND ABOUT MY LIFE?
HAWA-KATA-SAN?
THE TRUTH IS THAT YOU ARE TOO AFRAID TO OPEN YOUR WORLD TO OTHER PEOPLE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
OOH.. HE THINKS HE CAN SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME...!!
I HATE HIM!!
I HATE HIM!!

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE RUMORS, YOU KNOW!!
WAIT, HAWAKATA-SAN!!
AH!
GOSH! WHAT'S THAT BOX? IT'S SO CUTE! ♡
DO YOU LIVE IN THIS NEIGHBOR-HOOD?
I KNEW IT WAS YOU!
GEH!
THANK YOU.
I THINK YOU GAVE ME THAT NOTE BECAUSE YOU WERE WORRIED FOR ME, RIGHT?
Ignore me. You'll get burned
...BUT I DO KNOW YOU'RE A NICE PERSON.
I WOULDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT CURSES...
THANKS.
...BUT I'D LIKE TO BE FRIENDS WITH YOU...
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO HAPPEN OVER-NIGHT...


BUT JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.
YOU ARE COLD AS ICE, GIRL.

IF SHE HANGS AROUND ME, THERE'LL BE RUMORS.
THEY'LL SAY AWFUL THINGS ABOUT HER. I GUARANTEE IT.
HER WORLD IS TOTALLY FREE OF THAT CRAP. BUT IF SHE GOT DRAGGED INTO MINE...
... WOULDN'T SHE GET HURT?
HERE, IN REALITY, YOU ARE THE ONE WHO HAS HURT HER...
...BECAUSE OF YOUR RUBBISH ASSUMPTIONS.

I—
I...!
UGH!! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO!?
I WANT TO BELONG OUT THERE TOO!!
DRIP
AT LUNCH-TIME...
...I WANT TO EAT WITH FRIENDS LIKE EVERYONE ELSE...
I NEVER WANTED ...
...TO BE ALL ALONE ...!!
THAT GIRL SAID SHE DOES NOT HEED THE RUMORS.
TAK

IT IS AS SIMPLE AS THAT.
SO TAKE HER UP ON HER OFFER.
WHEN YOUR FRIEND IS HURT...
...YOU SHOULD STEP UP TO PROTECT THEM.
ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVE TO RUIN IT ...?
HEFT
IT IS TIME.
NOTHING GOOD CAN COME OF KEEPING A BOX THAT HAS BEEN STEEPED IN A MAGAI'S MALICE FOR YEARS UPON YEARS.
IT IS BEST TO DESTROY IT OUTRIGHT.

BOOM
!!?
NO, ACTU-ALLY...
WAI—
NO...
HOT ...!!!
THROO
DROP
!?
WHY!?
OH NO!
MY VOICE! NOT AGAIN!
ROAR

KABOOOM
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
VNOOP
GROOOAN
CLATTER

THAT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT.
A LITTLE LONGER, AND MY FIRE WOULD HAVE BEEN PUT OUT!
メラ
CRACKLE
メラ
CRACKLE
RODOAR
INFERNO MAGAI SEKHMET
UGH, WHY'S OLD IMHOTEP AWAKE ANYWAY?
WHAT ARE THOSE TRUE GODS THINKING?

...BECAUSE YOU HAVE BEEN SO VERY WICKED...
...THAT THEY HAD TO WAKE EVEN ME.
I THINK IT IS TIME I BROUGHT YOU TO HEEL...
THEY HAVE LEFT YOU FALSE GODS TO ME...
!!
...INSIDE THIS PURIFI-CATION BOX.
FWOOM
FWOOM
FWOOM
ROOOAR
TOO BAD FOR YOU!
KOOM
I HAVEN'T HAD MY FILL OF RAMPAGING YET!!
?
WHAT'S THAT THING?

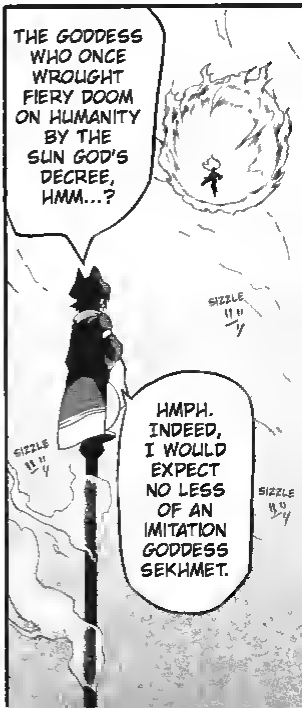
!?
SLASH
GRRRRR!
AND NAUGHTY CHILDREN MUST BE PUNISHED.
SPLASH
YOU'VE BEEN A NAUGHTY CHILD.

GROWLL
MUST YOU BE BEATEN INTO SUB-MISSION?
OR WILL YOU ENTER THE BOX ON YOUR OWN?
WHICH WILL IT BE?
THE GOD ANUBIS...!?
SHWOOO
HMPH...I CAN'T BELIEVE THEY WOULD OBEY SOMEONE OF YOUR ILK
ANSWER QUICKLY NOW, FOR I AM HUNGRY.

CHILL
OR SHOULD I TAKE THIS TO MEAN YOU DEFER TO MY DISCRETION?
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
ROOOOAR
DO NOT BE PRESUMPTUOUS, LOWLY HUMAN!!!!
SIZZLE
IT'S A HUGE FIRE-BALL!!
THE SUN!?
WHAT'S THAT?
SURE IS HOT...

INCREDIBLE, AREN'T I?
IMITATION OR NO, I AM A GOD!!

RUMBLE
ゴゴゴゴ
?
IT IS TIME FOR YOUR SUN TO SET.
BUT TONIGHT IS A FULL MOON.


THE GODDESS WHO ONCE WROUGHT FIERY DOOM ON HUMANITY BY THE SUN GOD'S DECREE, HMM...?
SIZZLE
HMPH. INDEED, I WOULD EXPECT NO LESS OF AN IMITATION GODDESS SEKHMET.

SMASH

HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO SUMMON ONE OF THE GODS OF CREATION!?
YOU, WHO DESECRATED THEM...
...AND WAS BANISHED FROM THIS WORLD FOR IT!?
THE MOON GOD THOTH!!?
NO...
IMPOSSIBLE!

YOU ARE NO HUMAN!
YOU—
WHAT ARE YOU...!!?
ヒュ
WHOOSH
THE GREAT PRIEST...
...IMHOTEP!!!

AARRGH!
BOOM
NOW, THEN...
WHEN SHE WAKES, SHE WILL YELL AT ME AGAIN, I AM SURE.
I WILL DESTROY IT IN THIS MOMENT OF PEACE.
HEFT
THUNK

BUT KNOW THAT IF YOU DO, I'LL TAKE THIS LITTLE GIRL WITH ME!!
YOU WANT TO EXORCISE ME? GO AHEAD AND TRY IT!!
FWOOM
UNGH ...
AAAH!
STOP... DON'T DESTROY IT...
WELL!?
IT'S YOUR MOVE, PRIEST!!
!?
AH-HA-HA-HAAA!! TOO BAD! SO SAD!! YOU LOSE, IMHOTEP!!
AFTER EVERY-THING, YOU STILL PRO-TEST ...!?
KAKRUNCH

I DON'T NEED THIS THING ANY-MORE.
STOP...
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM

THIS IS SOME-THING...
...I HAVE TO DO MYSELF...

I WANT...
...THE COURAGE TO FACE OTHER PEOPLE!
NO!!
WHAM
WHAM
WHAM

I'M NEVER GOING TO LET MYSELF BE ALONE AGAIN!

NOOO!!

TOO BAD, SO SAD.
IT WOULD SEEM YOU HAVE BEEN "SACKED"... OR RATHER ... ... "BOX-ED."
PURIFI-CATION BOX!
AAAA

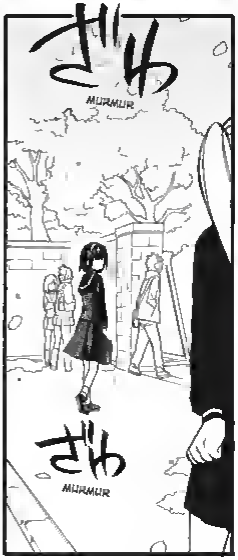
PLOP
I COM-
MEND
YOU.
BRAVO!
WELL
DONE!
SMACK
.....
POOF
.....
CAN'T...
SPE...
AK...
WHAT!?
I FI...
NALLY...
TOOK MY
WORLD...
BACK,
AND...
...I'M SO
HAPPY...
THAT I...
CAN'T FIND
THE...
WORDS
...!
THANK...
YOU.

...
MAKE A FRIEND ...?
CAN I...

I WAS SURE THAT HOUSE'S CURSE SPREAD TO THE REST OF US.
THAT WAS CRAZY! I THOUGHT IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD!
OMIGOSH, DID YOU SEE THAT YESTERDAY!?
THE BIG BALL OF FIRE?
WHAT WAS THAT?
WE'D BE DONE FOR THEN!

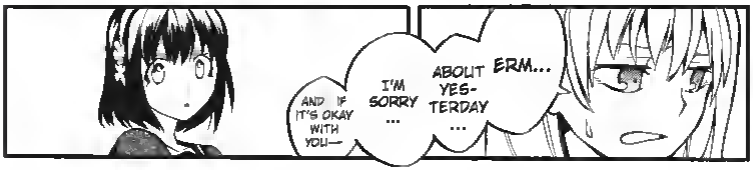
WAS THAT A PHONY RUMOR?
HUH? WHERE'S THE BURN SCAR?
SHE'S NOT WEARING THAT SCARF.
HEY, LOOK.

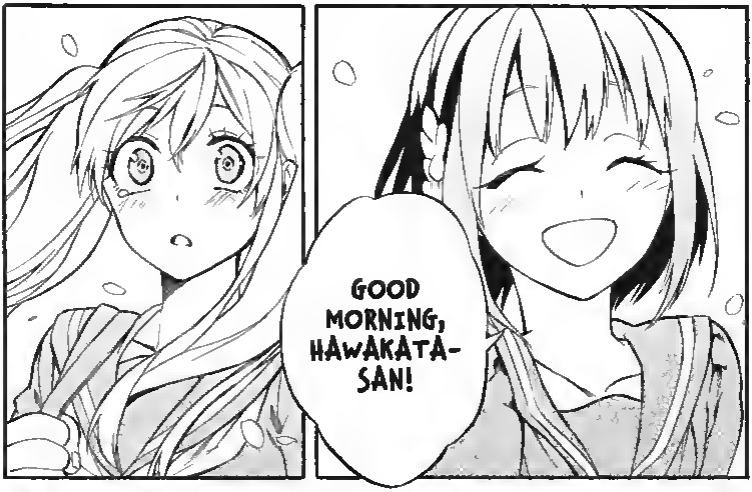
G—

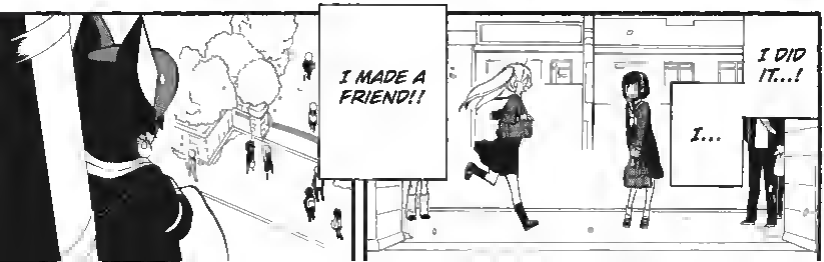

ざわ
MURMUR
ざわ
MURMUR

GOOD MORN... ING!

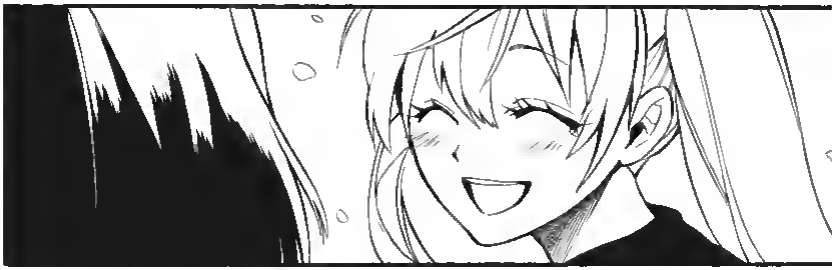
OH SNAP! WE HEARD HER VOICE!
WE'LL BE CURSED!!
IN FALSETTO ...
WHA—?
SHE TALKED!?
HA-WA-KATA? FOR REAL!?
NO WAY!


AND IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU—
I'M SORRY ...
ABOUT YES-TERDAY ...
ERM...


GOOD MORNING, HAWAKATA-SAN!


I MADE A FRIEND!!
I DID IT...!
I...

HINOME HAWAKATA ...



AH, WELCOME HOME.
PFOH ?!!

DEEEAM
I'M HOOOME! ♪
DAD, GUESS WHAT!? I MADE A FRIEND TODAY, AND—

NO WAA-AAA-AAY!
I AM HERE TO STAY!
"I SHALL CLAIM THIS PLACE AS MY ABODE."
WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE!?
IMHO-TEP!?
"STILL"? I TOLD YOU WHEN I ARRIVED.
THERE ARE STILL MANY MAGA! LURKING IN THIS COUNTRY.
I WILL REQUIRE A BASE OF OPERATIONS.
BESIDES ...
HE'S BEEN BRIBED ...
DAD—
NUZZLE NUZZLE
OH-HOHHH! PILES OF ANCIENT ARTIFACTS! I'M IN HEAVEN, IMHOTEP-SAMA!

...I HAVE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU!
I—
I AM IN YOUR CARE, HINOME.
YOU DESIRE FRIENDS, YES? I WILL BE YOUR FRIEND NUMBER ONE!
BAM
LEAVE ME ALOOONE!!
IN YOUR DREAMS!
IM-SAMA!
YES, SIR!
AH.
YOU MAY HENCEFORTH ADDRESS ME AFFECTIONATELY AS "IM."

LONG AGO IN THE TIME BEFORE CHRIST...
...THERE LIVED IN THE KINGDOM OF ANCIENT EGYPT A HUMAN PRIEST WHO WAS CALLED A GOD.
HE SERVED THE PHARAOH AND IT WAS BELIEVED THAT HE WOULD LEAD THE KINGDOM TO PROSPERITY...
...UNTIL ONE DAY, HE ABRUPTLY VANISHED FROM THE WORLD.
WHERE DID HE GO...?
CRASH
WHAT REALLY HAP-PENED ...?
...IMHOTEP ...!!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU...

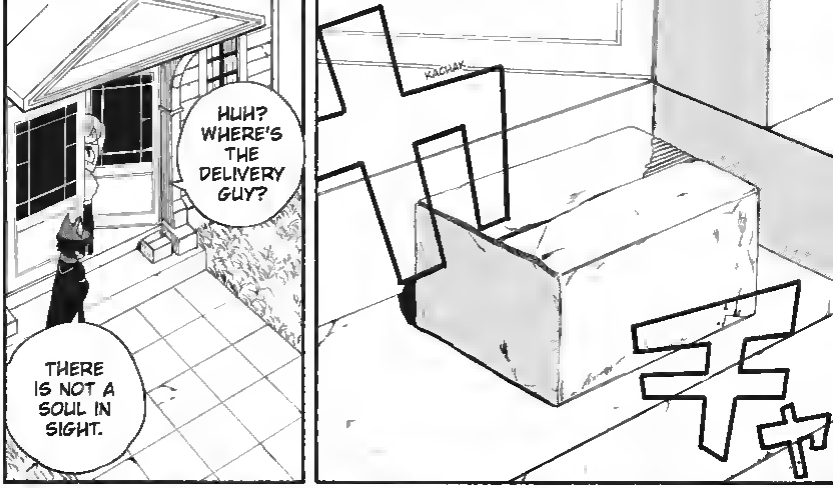
SCROLL 2. THE BLACK ASSASSIN

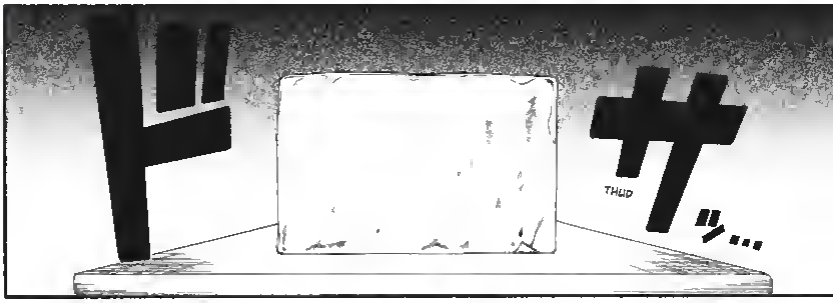
I USED TO BE CURSED.
SOMETHING CALLED A "MAGAI" HAD POSSESSED ME. THE MAGAI ARE FALSE GODS.
THIS MAGAI STOLE MY VOICE— AND IT WAS ABOUT TO STEAL MY SOUL NEXT! THAT WAS WHEN...
...HE CAME TO MY RESCUE.

WHY, YOUUU !!!?
HAWAKATA HOUSEHOLD AKA "HEX HOUSE"
... IMHOTEP !!!!
COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU AAARE ...
"IS SOMETHING THE MATTER"!!? THAT JERK WENT AND DOODLED ALL OVER MY BEDROOM WALLS!!!
"IS SOME-THING THE MATTER"!?
SOME-THING THE MATTER, HINOME-CHAN?
?
KACHIK
ALSO! THOSE ARE NO MERE "DOODLES"!
YOU DON'T TRUST YOUR PAPA!!?
WHAT!?
NOT WHEN YOU TWO ARE ALL BUDDY-BUDDY
SHOCK
NOW, SPIT IT OUT!! WHERE ARE YOU HIDING HIM!?

NOW 'FESS UP!!
EEEK!!
PHEW. THE JAPANESE MANNER OF BATHING IS QUITE PLEASING.
WELL, WELL~! HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE DOODLES LODK LIKE, HMM, DAD?
SMACK
THEY'RE CALLED "HIEROGLYPHS." THAT WORD MEANS "SACRED ENGRAVED LETTERS"!! THEY'RE ONE OF THE LOST ANCIENT SCRIPTS. THE PRIESTS OF OLD USED MORE SOPHISTICATED HIEROGLYPHS THAN THE ORDINARY—
HN?
VAVOOM
AAAH... HOW NICE AND COOL...
WELL, PAPA'S OFF TO WORK!
YAAARGH!
WHAT D'YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, YOU MORON!?

IF YOU DO NOT LIKE IT, YOU ARE FREE TO LEAVE.
THIS WAS MY HOUSE FIRST!
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO LIVE WITH THIS JERK?
CLANK
THIS SUCKS.
HMPH. IT SEEMS YOU STILL DO NOT COMPREHEND MY GREATNESS.
SCRUB
YOU'RE JUST A FREE-LOADER! GOT IT?
IF YOU'RE IN THIS TIME, YOU SHOULD FOLLOW ITS RULES!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE SOME GREAT PRIEST FROM THREE THOUSAND YEARS AGO!
UH-HUH. SUUURE IT DOES...
.....?
EH-HEHN!
IF I AM STILL IN THIS WORLD NOW...
IT MEANS THAT THE WORLD NEEDS ME, YOU SEE?
WHAT THE HECK!? THIS IS OIL-BASED !!!
PIIIPOOO
PING-PODONG


HUH? WHERE'S THE DELIVERY GUY?
THERE IS NOT A SOUL IN SIGHT.
KACHAK...
チャ


ドサッ...
THUD

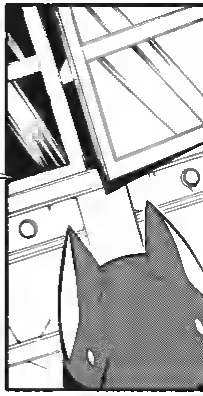
THE TRUTH BEHIND THE UNLA- BELED BOX IS...?
VIEWS? SHIPPING PACKAGE DELIVERS TWO VICTIMS, NEFARIOUSLY ISSUED
BARBARIC! A DISMEMBERED BODY IN A CARDBOARD BOX
SHOULD WE HAVE CARRIED IT INTO THE HOUSE?
CREEPY.
THERE'S NO RETURN ADDRESS OR DESTINATION ON IT.
MAYBE IT'S A PRANK?

WHIRL
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
ドタ
ドタ
ドタ
ドタ
ドタ
ドタ
.....
WHY, WHAT DID YOUR GREAT MIND IMAGINE, HMMM?
OH MY. WHATEVER SEEMS TO BE THE MATTER, O LEGENDARY PRIEST?
GO AND OPEN IT, HINOME.
HECK NO!!!
WHAT, ARE YOU SCARED? ARE YOU TOO CHICKEN!? SOME MAN YOU ARE, HIDING BEHIND A GIRL!!!
SOME WOMAN YOU ARE, SO RAUCOUS AND UN-DIGNIFIED.
BASH
EXCUSE ME!!?
ZOOM
!?

CLINK
CLACK
CLINK
CLACK
SPIN
SPIN
SPIN
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
BOOONG
BOOONG
.....
KEH
IS IT A MAGA! !!?
WAIT, LET ME GUESS— ANOTHER MAGA!?
EEEEK! WHAT'S GOING ON!?
KEH

IMHOTEP!
SAY YOUR PRAY-ERS!
BAAM

キラン
GLINT



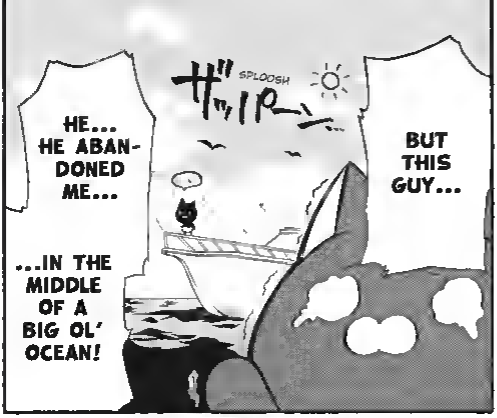
DODGE
YIPE !!!
FLAP FLAP
FLAP FLAP
SNAG
HWUH!!?
...
ANUBIS.
...LONG TIME NO SEE...
GUSH
GUSH
I'LL PUNISH YOU!!
HOW DARE YOU LEAVE ME BEHIND!!
I'VE FINALLY HUNTED YOU DOWN, IMHOTEP!
AH!

C...
C...
...MUCH LIKE YOURSELF, YES, HINOME?
AS ALWAYS, YOU ARE LOUD ENOUGH TO WAKE THE DEAD...
GASP
BWUH !?
IN COVER
WHY AM I NAKIES!?

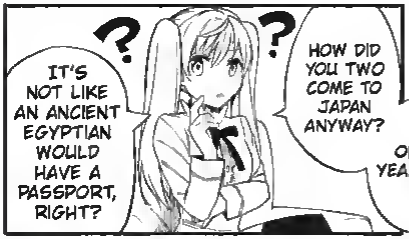
CUUUTE! ♡
C—
SWOOON

HUH !?
HE IS A GOD, AFTER A FASHION. PERHAPS DIAL IT BACK.
CRUUUSH
HERE, LITTLE CUTIE!♡ COME LET ME HOLD YOU! ♡
A "C"...? I DUNNO ...

THE GOD ANUBIS.
GUARD DOG OF THE UNDER-WORLD
GUARDIAN DEITY OF THE DEAD
THAT IS A GUARD-IAN GOD ...?
THIS ONE IS STILL A PUPPY DOG.
DON'T CALL ME A DOG!!
FUME
ONE DAY, I'M GONNA BE THE STRONGEST ANUBIS OUT THERE!!
I'LL HAVE YOU MIND YOUR MANNERS, IMHOTEP!!
ぷん
HUFF
すこ
SNORT
HEAR THAT? HE SAID TO MIND YOUR MANNERS!
PEE!
I'M BEING SERIOUS!!
"WATCH IMHOTEP."
THAT'S THE MISSION MASTER ANUBIS GAVE ME!!


SPLOOSH
HE... HE ABANDONED ME...
...IN THE MIDDLE OF A BIG OL' OCEAN!
BUT THIS GUY...

MY JOB WAS TO ALWAYS STAY ON IMHOTEP'S HEELS...
...AND REPORT ALL OF HIS DOINGS BACK TO MY MASTER.


IT'S NOT LIKE AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN WOULD HAVE A PASSPORT, RIGHT?
HOW DID YOU TWO COME TO JAPAN ANYWAY?
OH YEAH...

SIT.
WAAAH!

I AM EXORCISING THE MAGAI AS PROMISED. FRANKLY, YOU ARE...
TO BEGIN WITH, I DO NOT NEED A WATCHDOG!!

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!! MY DAD AND ME DON'T NEED ANY MORE TROUBLE, YOU KNOW!!
LET US PUT THAT MATTER ASIDE.

?

SHWIP
HUH? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AWAY!?
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE HERE ILLEGALLY ...!?

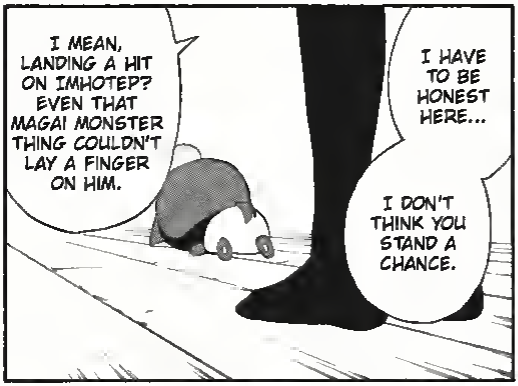
"GREAT EVIL-DOER" ...!?
I-I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE!!
YOU'RE A GREAT EVILDOER!! YOU CAN'T BE LEFT OFF THE LEASH!!
EEEK !!!
WERE YOU NOT A PUP, I WOULD SEND YOU FLYING...
SWISH
...NUI-SANCE!
EEP!
SHIVER
...AN ANNOYING ...
I WON'T... LEAVE...
.....
I SEE ...
THEN ...
JOLT
SWISH
...I'M NOT GONNA LEAVE, SO THERE !!!
I SWEAR ...

I CHALLENGE YOU TO TRY AND LAND EVEN A SINGLE STRIKE ON MY BODY BY SUPPERTIME.
SIX O' CLOCK.
CAN YOU BE GONE TOO?
Y—
YOU'RE ON! 'COS THERE'S NO WAY I'LL LOSE!
COME ON!
DO YOUR WORST !!!
HWEH!?
IF YOU PASS, THEN YOU ARE FREE TO PERSIST WITH THIS WATCHDOG NONSENSE.
BUT IF YOU FAIL...
...THEN BEGONE WITH YOU.
BOOONG

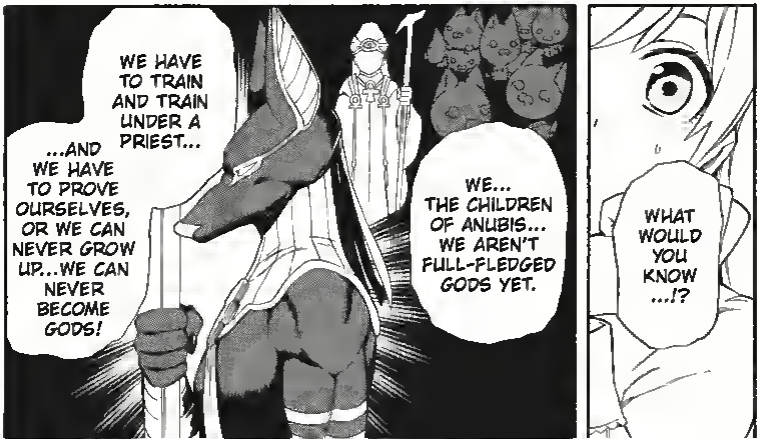
TICK
TOCK
BFFT!
SLURP
DO YOUR WOR—
DO YOUR—
SPLASH
ぼちゃん
GYAAAAAH!
ぐすんぐすん...
OOMPH.
DO YOUR W—
BGYUU!
WILL YOU TWO GIVE IT A REST ALREADY!?
KAPOW
KACHUNK
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
CLOBBER
KATHOOM
HEY—!
WHY, YOU...!
DO YOUR...
DO Y—
ぼーーーん...
BOOOONG
ONE HOUR REMAINING

SIGH
はぁ

TIME FOR A NAP.
ぼしゅ...
BOOONG


I MEAN, LANDING A HIT ON IMHOTEP? EVEN THAT MAGA! MONSTER THING COULDN'T LAY A FINGER ON HIM.
I HAVE TO BE HONEST HERE...
I DON'T THINK YOU STAND A CHANCE.

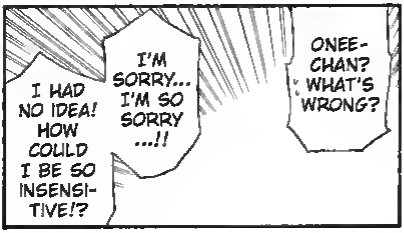
NEVER !!!!
STAND
スタンド
YOUR MASTER ASKED TOO MUCH OF YOU, THAT'S ALL.
BETTER TO GIVE UP AND...


WE HAVE TO TRAIN AND TRAIN UNDER A PRIEST...
...AND WE HAVE TO PROVE OURSELVES, OR WE CAN NEVER GROW UP...WE CAN NEVER BECOME GODS!
WE... THE CHILDREN OF ANUBIS... WE AREN'T FULL-FLEDGED GODS YET.
WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ...!?

I'M ALWAYS LEFT BEHIND.
NO ONE ACKNOWL-EDGES ME.
BUT I'M A DUMMY...AND CLUMSY...
I CAN'T KEEP UP WITH OTHERS MY AGE AT ALL.
"USELESS"—
OBSERVE IMHOTEP.
IF YOU CAN COMPLETE THIS MISSION SUCCESSFULLY, I'LL RECOGNIZE YOU AS A FELLOW GOD ANUBIS.
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE.
BUT I REALLY WANNA BE A GOD.
S... I BEGGED MY MASTER!

BUT IF YOU FAIL...

...I WILL DISPOSE OF YOU.



I GOT YOUR BACK!
LEMME DOWN!
SO SOFT...
THERE WAS A WHOLE LOTTA HEART HIDDEN IN THIS ITTY-BITTY BODY, WASN'T THERE?
OKAY!
THIS IS THE PERFECT CHANCE...
IMHOTEP'S A HEADACHE FOR ME TOO.
HUNH!? REALLY!?
WHO'RE YOU AGAIN, ONEE-CHAN?
...
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH... HEH HEH... PAFF HEH HEH HEH HEH...
SHIVER
...FOR ME TO POUND INTO HIM WHO THE REAL MASTER OF THE HOUSE IS HERE.

HE DOESN'T TAKE ME SERIOUSLY AT ALL ...
THAT JERK! WHO SAID HE COULD SNOOZE AWAY IN MY BED ~!?
SNORE
...BUT WHY SHOULD WE LET HIM OFF EASY?
SNEAK
SNEAK
WE COULD SURPRISE ATTACK HIM IN HIS SLEEP...
SHHHH!
THE PHARAOH-WAKER IS A GO!!
WE DID IT!
SLIP!

BOOM
WITH THIS PRANK MAGIC ITEM, YOUR WORST ENEMY IS IN FOR AN EXPLOSIVELY BAD HAIR DAY!
THIS HEADDRESS MONITORS THE BRAIN ACTIVITY OF ITS WEARER, AND THE MOMENT THEY WAKE UP... KABOOOM!!
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE... THE PHARAOH-WAKER!!
MADE IN ANUBIS
EITHER WAY, IT'LL BE A SIGHT TO SEE!
WILL IMHOTEP WAKE UP FIRST, OR WILL THE TEN MINUTES RUN OUT FIRST?
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO WAIT!
COMES COMPLETE WITH A TIMER MODE PERFECT FOR STUBBORN SLEEPYHEADS !!
NOW THIS IS GETTING FUN!
SET FOR...TEN MINUTES. ♡
PFF PFF PFF!
YOU KEEP CALLING HIM "GREAT EVILDOER."
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?
SERVES YOU RIGHT, GREAT EVIL-DOER !!!
YEP, 'COS I'VE ALREADY WON!!

AND NOT SO LOUD!!
HE FOISTED HIMSELF ON US!!
YOU MEAN YOU'VE BEEN LETTING HIM LIVE HERE, AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW!?
HWUH !?
WHAT!!?

.....

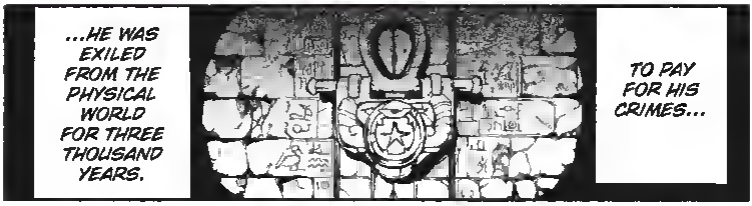
HE GOT SEALED AWAY.

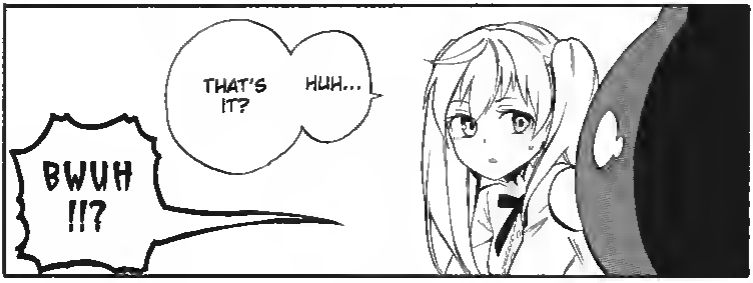
I MEAN, NO MATTER HOW AMAZING A PRIEST HE WAS, IMHOTEP'S ONLY HUMAN, RIGHT?
IS HE REALLY AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THERE'S NO WAY HE'S THREE THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

...IMHOTEP WAS SEALED AWAY BY THE GODS.
FOR THE LAST THREE THOUSAND YEARS...

THREE THOU-SAND YEARS AGO...
...IMHOTEP WAS IN THE HIGHEST RANK OF PRIESTS DIRECTLY SERVING THE ROYAL FAMILY.
HE WAS SO GIFTED THAT PEOPLE SAID NOTHING WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM.
SOME EVEN CALLED HIM A GOD.
THE QUEUE OF ANUBIS CHILDREN WHO ASPIRED TO TRAIN UNDER HIM AS APPRENTICES WENT ON AS FAR AS THE EYE COULD SEE...
"IMHOTEP GOT SO ANNOYED THAT HE BLEW HUNDREDS UPON HUNDREDS OF ANUBIS CHILDREN SKY-HIGH."
BOOM
SHUT UP!
SO MY MASTER SAID.
THAT'S NOT WHY. I DON'T KNOW THE REAL REASON EITHER.
MY MASTER SAID THIS...
THAT'S WHY THEY CALL HIM "THE GREAT EVILDOER"?
SNRRK...
NUH-UH!

THE ORIGINAL GODS, WHO CREATED THE WORLD...
IT WAS THEIR WRATH IMHOTEP INCURRED.
...THE GROUP OF NINE— THE ENNEAD—


...HE WAS EXILED FROM THE PHYSICAL WORLD FOR THREE THOUSAND YEARS.
TO PAY FOR HIS CRIMES...


BWUH !!?
THAT'S IT?
HUH...

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING.
GODS— WHAT ARE THEY GOOD FOR?
IT'S NOT HARD TO IMAGINE HIM DOING THAT MUCH.
PRETTY EASY, ACTUALLY.
THEN HE REALLY IS A GREAT EVILDOER!!?
WHADDAYA MEAN, "THAT'S IT"!?
THAT'S A REALLY, REALLY BAD THING!!
I DUNNO... IT'S JUST...
HE'S ARROGANT, YEAH.
HE'S LIKE A LIVING EMBODIMENT OF SELF-IMPORTANCE. IT TICKS ME OFF.
BUT PERSONALLY...
...I JUST CAN'T SEE IMHOTEP AS SOME KIND OF SUPERVILLAIN.
THAT'S NOT TO SAY I WON'T GET MY PAYBACK!

WHY DID HE WASTE HIS BIG CHANCE?
EVERYONE RESPECTED HIM SO MUCH THAT THEY EVEN MADE HIM A GOD, SO WHY...?
I HATE HIM.
...DO MY VERY BEST, AND I STILL CAN'T GET ACKNOWL-EDGED.
I...
I CAN'T FORGIVE IT...
ANUBIS...
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER

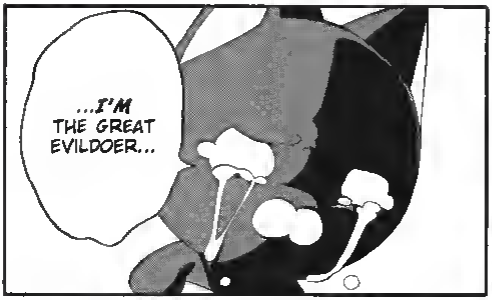
!!?
GASP
I'M GONNA PULVERIZE 'IM!!!
HEY!?
I JUST CAN'T FORGIVE IT!!!!
SPRONG
WHAT'S WRONG?
?
ONEE-CHAN, WHAT DO I DO...?
SHAKE
SHUDDER
I MESSED THE SETTINGS UP.
...YOU KNOW THE, UM, POWER OUTPUT AFTER THAT?
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BLOW UP IMHOTEP'S HAIR... ONLY...
I SET THE COUNTDOWN TIMER FOR TEN MINUTES! THAT'S RIGHT, BUT...
BIP
UMMM... DON'T PANIC, OKAY?

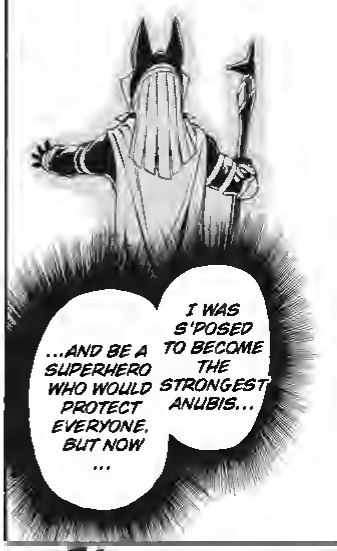
WHAAAAA...
...AAAAAT!?
SHHH! IF IMHOTEP WAKES UP, WE'LL GO KABLOOEY!!
...IT'S SET HIGH ENOUGH...
...TO BLOW AWAY A WHOLE CITY.
SAY WHAT!?
I...I CAN'T...
COME ON! HURRY!
D-DEACTIVATE IT QUICK, THEN!
W-WAAAH!
DON'T CRY!
YOU'LL WAKE HIM UP!
YOU SET UP A BOMB WITHOUT KNOWING HOW TO TURN IT OFF!?
I... DUNNO HOW TO...

CAN I USE FORCE TO BREAK IT MAYBE? WHAT IF I TAKE THE BATTERIES OUT!?
YOU CAAAN'T!
NOOO-HOO-HOO...
DON'T YOU HAVE AN INSTRUCTION MANUAL OR, SOME-THING!?
!!!!
MM... NN ..
THEN WHO CAN!?
BWAAAAAH!
THERE AREN'T ANY BATTERIES 'COS IT'S MAGIC! YOU CAN'T STOP IT, ONEE-CHAAAN!
ZZZZ
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM

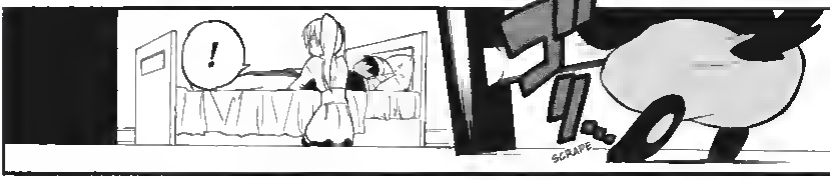
MMN...
IM-HOTEP COULD DO IT...
...BUT IF HE WAKES UP, IT'LL EXPLODE!!
MAYBE I CAN GEEENTLY SLIP IT OFF...?
BUT...IF I SCREW IT UP...
BIP
BIP
BIP
BIP
on mode
Super
exp
IT'S ALL OVER ...
SLUMP

BECAUSE I WAS USELESS ...
IT'S MY FAULT...
USELESS.
ピッ ピッ ピッ
...WE'RE ALL GONNA DIE...

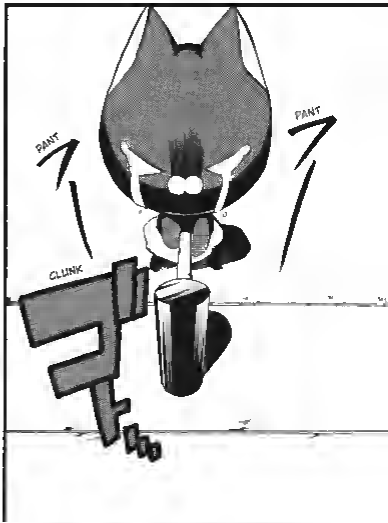

...I'M THE GREAT EVILDOER...

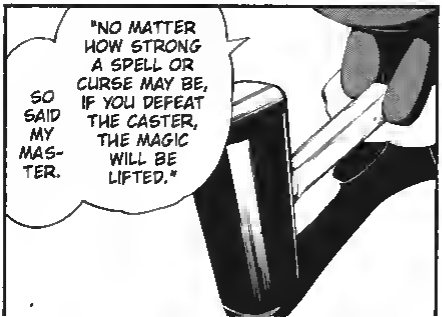

I WAS S'POSED TO BECOME THE STRONGEST ANUBIS...
...AND BE A SUPERHERO WHO WOULD PROTECT EVERYONE, BUT NOW ...

BIP
BIP


!
SCRAPE

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? I THOUGHT YOU SAID WE CAN'T BREAK THIS THING.
THERE'S ONE WAY...
...TO CANCEL THE MAGIC.


PANT
PANT
CLUNK

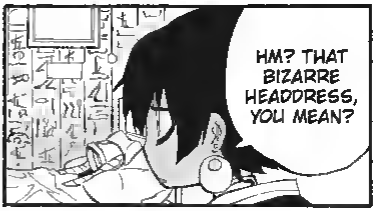

"NO MATTER HOW STRONG A SPELL OR CURSE MAY BE, IF YOU DEFEAT THE CASTER, THE MAGIC WILL BE LIFTED."
SO SAID MY MAS-TER.

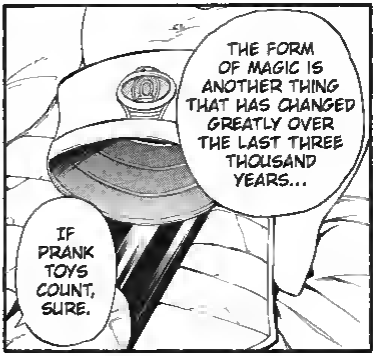
I GOTTA TAKE DOWN THE CASTER— ME!!
!?
I AM ANUBIS !!
A GUARD-IAN GOD ...
...WHO PROTECTS EVERY-ONE!!!

KACRACK
THROB
YOU LANDED A HIT.
AH.
BOTHER ...

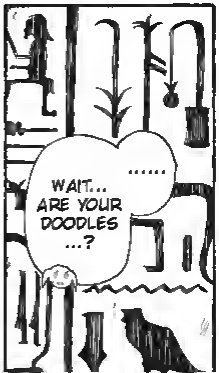
WHAT? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PHARAOH-WAKER!?
HUH!!?
IS SUP-PER READY?
MORNING
IMHOTEP!?

FRET NOT.
NO MAGIC SPELLS OR CURSES WILL WORK IN THIS ROOM.


HM? THAT BIZARRE HEADDRESS, YOU MEAN?


THE FORM OF MAGIC IS ANOTHER THING THAT HAS CHANGED GREATLY OVER THE LAST THREE THOUSAND YEARS...
IF PRANK TOYS COUNT, SURE.

HUH!!?
BUT TOO BAD...IT SEEMS IT WAS AN ANNOYANCE TO YOU.
SULK
I MEANT TO PROTECT YOU FROM BEING AFFLICTED BY ANOTHER CURSE.
NO, I—
THANKS— BUT YOU COULD'VE SAID SOME-ER! THING...


.....
WAIT... ARE YOUR DOODLES ...?

GUILT
しょぼ～ん
AND HERE I TRIED TO SHOW MY HEARTFELT CONCERN IN MY OWN CLUMSY WAY...

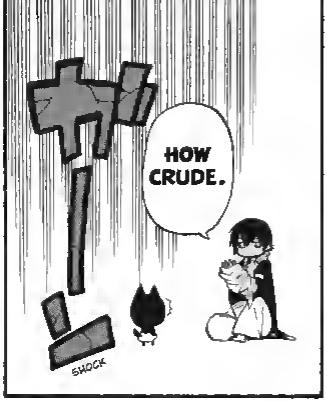
GUILT
I DID NOT REALIZE I WAS SUCH A GREAT NUISANCE ...

I KNOW YOU HEARD ME! I'M NOT SAYING IT AGAIN...
HN?

!!

I'M SORRY.
THANK YOU.

WHY DID YOU RESCUE ME!?
WHY!?
OMIGOSH!! YOUR HAND'S SUPER-SWOLLEN!!
I'M USELESS ...!
QUICKLY, NOW.
UWEH, !?
TEND TO MY HAND.
WRAP
まき
WRAP
まき
WRAP
まき
WRAP
まき


HOW CRUDE.
SHOCK

SLOPPY
やっぱ……

YOU TRULY ARE NO GOOD.
TO THINK THERE WOULD BE AN ANUBIS, GOD OF MUMMY-MAKING, WHO CANNOT EVEN WRAP A BANDAGE PROPERLY...

I DO NOT NEED A WATCHDOG.
BUT IF I AM GOING TO HAVE AN APPRENTICE, I WANT IT TO BE YOU.

...YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO CHALLENGE THIS "GREAT EVILDOER" AGAIN AND AGAIN...
...AND THE COURAGE TO SACRIFICE YOUR OWN LIFE TO PROTECT EVERYONE ELSE...YOU'VE IMPRESSED ME.

BUT...

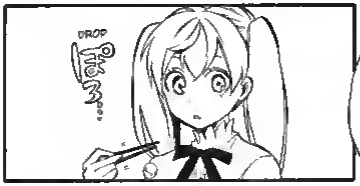
ARE YOU PREPARED TO TRAIN UNDER ME?
...HUH?

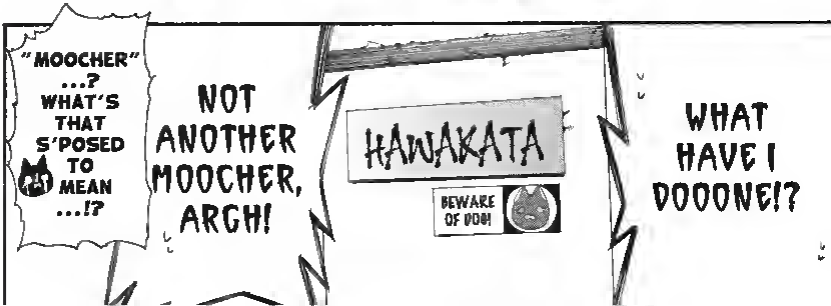
YOU'LL REALLY ACKNOWLEDGE MY EXISTENCE?
IF I DO MY BEST, CAN I BECOME A GOD?
YOU'RE ACKNOW-LEDGING ME...?
I ACKNOW-LEDGE YOU.

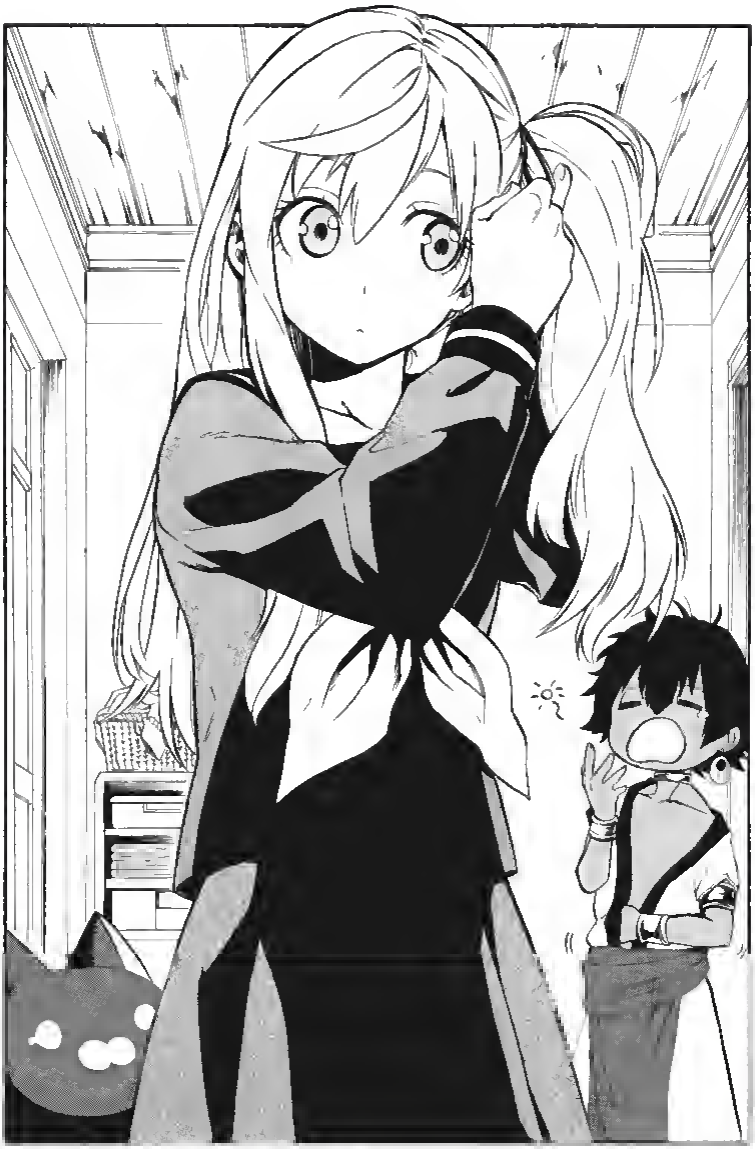
FOR JUST A SECOND THERE...
UWAAAAAAAAAAH! AAARGH!
!?
HIKI
THROB
SQUEEZE
WAAAAAAAAH!
...LIKE A GREAT AND WISE PRIEST.
...IMHOTEP REALLY LOOKED...
I JUST CAN'T SEE HIM BEING A BAD GUY...
AAARGH!
I STAND BY WHAT I SAID.
I WUV YOU!
I WUV YOU!
SNOT? How VILE!!
I WUV YOU!
I WUV YOU!

...AND NOW, I GET TO MEET A REAL LIVE ANUBIS TOO? ♪
FIRST IM-SAMA...

WAIT. YOU'RE LIVING HERE?
IN OUR HOUSE?
I LOOK FORWARD TO LIVING WITH YOU, PAPA! ♪
MUNCH
MUNCH
CRUNCH
OH, I'M SO BLESSED! ♪


DROP
THANKS, ONEE-CHAN!
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING. HE IS MY APPREN-TICE.


"MOOCHER" ...? WHAT'S THAT S'POSED TO MEAN ...!?
NOT ANOTHER MOOCHER, ARGH!
HAWAKATA
BEWARE OF DOG!
WHAT HAVE I DOOONE!?

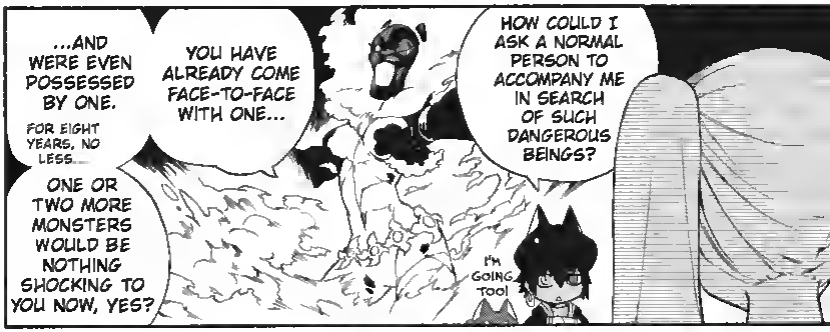


SCROLL 3: THE SUN SHINES ON THE UNREACHABLE FLOWER

SPARKLE
WAAAH!
WHAT IS THIS?
IT IS PROOF THAT YOU ARE IN TRAINING AND MY APPRENTICE.
IT IS YOUR COLLAR.
YAAAY!
YOUR TRAINING BEGINS TODAY.
YOU ARE PREPARED, YES?
THEN LET US GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT...
HINOME.
WE GO IN SEARCH OF MAGAI.

I'LL PASS.
WE ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE.
COME.
ARE YOU DEAF!? I JUST SAID NO!
NOT TO MENTION I HAVE SOMEPLACE ELSE TO BE — SCHOOL!!
THE WORLD AND ITS IMPENDING DOOM... OR SCHOOL— WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU?
SCRAPE
NEITHER. I PICK CHOICE C— "ME."
NOT SO FAST! I THOUGHT BETTER OF YOU, HINOME!!
EVEN IF YOU GO TO SCHOOL, YOU HAVE NO FRIENDS THERE ANYWAY!!
GRAB
DO TOO!! DON'T MAKE ME PUNCH YOU!!!
THERE IS STILL MUCH I HAVE TO LEARN ABOUT THIS COUNTRY AND YOUR TOWN.
I REQUIRE A GUIDE.
ASK MY DAD!

TH-TH-THIS IS TOO SUDDEN!
AFTER ALL, I CANNOT DRAG NORMAL FOLK INTO THIS.
WHA—!?
WAIT...
DON'T BE A FOOL
I AM ASKING YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE THE ONLY PERSON I CAN RELY ON


...AND WERE EVEN POSSESSED BY ONE.
FOR EIGHT YEARS, NO LESS.
YOU HAVE ALREADY COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH ONE...
HOW COULD I ASK A NORMAL PERSON TO ACCOMPANY ME IN SEARCH OF SUCH DANGEROUS BEINGS?
ONE OR TWO MORE MONSTERS WOULD BE NOTHING SHOCKING TO YOU NOW, YES?
I'M GOING, TOO!

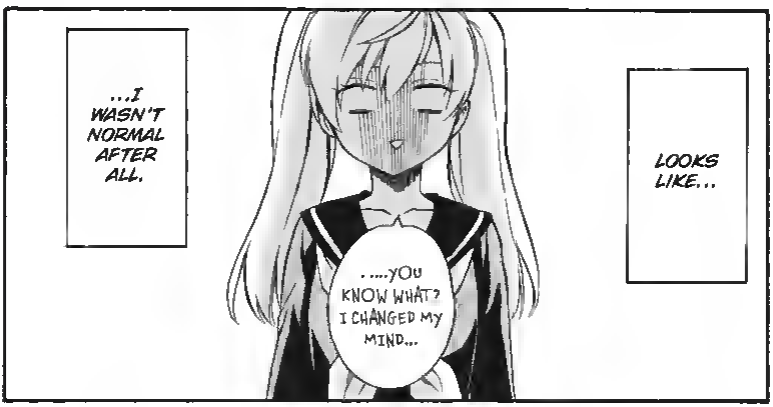
...BUT I DON'T...?
...SO YOU'RE SAYING THAT MY CRAZY DAD COUNTS AS NORMAL...
BOO!

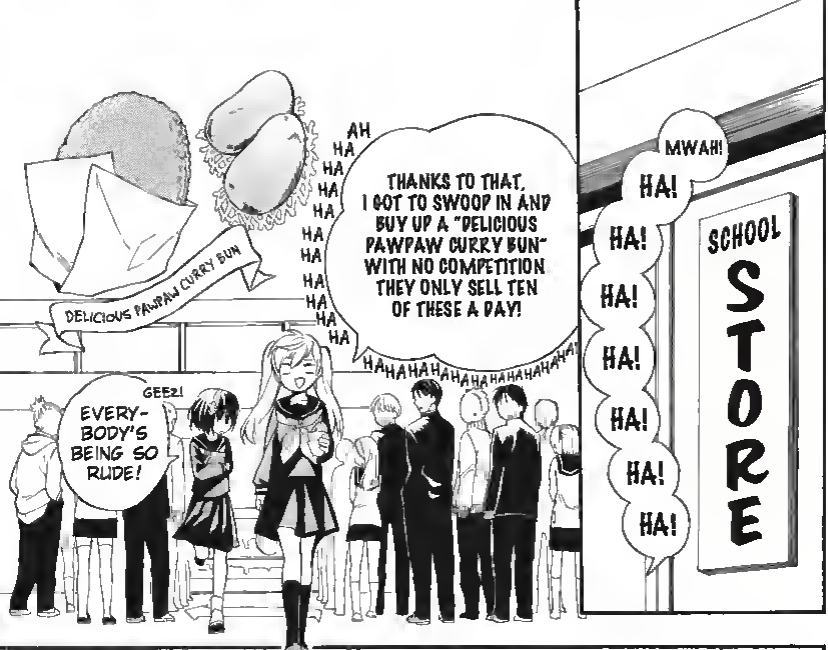
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
YOU TWO CAN SEARCH FOR MAGAI ALL YOU WANT — ON YOUR OWN!!
FORGET YOU!! THERE'S NOOO WAY I'M GOING!!
OH, HELL NOOOO !!!!
I'D RATHER DIE...
...THAN GET MIXED UP WITH ANY MORE OF THOSE STUPID MAGAI EVER AGAIN!!
DOOM
オオオ オオオ!
I'M FINALLY FREE FROM THAT CURSE!
YOU CAN BET YOUR BUTTS I'M GONNA REVEL IN MY NEWFOUND PEACEFUL, UNEVENTFUL, NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL LIFE!
THOOM
THOOM
YEAH, YOU HEARD ME! I'M A "NORMAL PERSON" TOO, DARN IT!!
THEY DIDN'T ASK ME...
SULK
※ THERE THE WHOLE TIME →

I HAVE A FRIEND...
...AND A PEACEFUL, UN-EVENTFUL LIFE...!!
IT'S SETTLED, THEN. SHIRAHANA IS THE CLASS PRESIDENT.
Cleanup Committee
OKAAAY!
SO CUTE...♡
I'LL DO MY VERY BEST!
THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME!
FLUTTER
OKAY! NEXT, WE'LL CHOOSE THE VICE PRESIDENT...
SHE'S NICE TO EVERYONE. IT'S HEALING... LIKE...
...LIKE SHE PURIFIES YOUR SOUL, RIGHT~!?
GOOD LOOKS AND A GOOD PERSON-ALITY...

GASP
ざわっ?!!
HEY!
HAWA-KATA PUT HER HAND UP!
I-IS THIS A NIGHT-MARE...?
PINCH
YEOW! NOPE, I'M AWAKE!!
WH-WH-WHAT'S SHE TRYING TO DO ...?
WHAT'S SHE AFTER!?
OUR CLASS IS DOOMED !!!
PEACE-FUL...
MURMUR
ざわ
...AND UN-EVENT-FUL...
MURMUR
ざわ
NO OTHER VOLUN-TEERS?
TH-THEN COULD YOU COME WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE BOARD?
YES, SIR.
SCRAPE
カ

WHISPER
HEY!
IF WE GET STUCK WITH HAWAKATA, WE'LL ALL BE IN HOT WATER!
HEY! SOMEBODY ELSE VOLUNTEER!
COME ON, IT'LL BE OKAY. WE HAVE SHIRAHANA-SAN!
HEY... WHAT IF SHE HEARS YOU?
BUT AT THIS RATE, SHIRAHANA-SAN WILL BE...
TOO SCARY! YOU DO IT!


...I WASN'T NORMAL AFTER ALL.
.....YOU KNOW WHAT? I CHANGED MY MIND...
LOOKS LIKE...

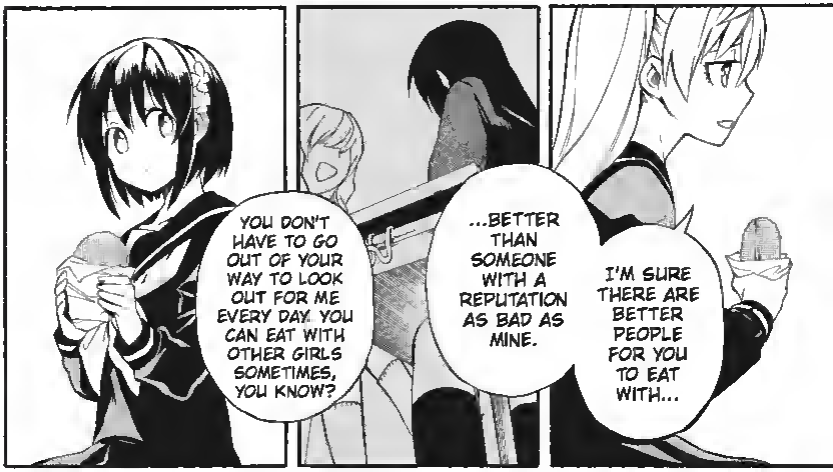

DELICIOUS PAWPAW CURRY BUN
AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
THANKS TO THAT, I GOT TO SWOOP IN AND BUY UP A "DELICIOUS PAWPAW CURRY BUN" WITH NO COMPETITION. THEY ONLY SELL TEN OF THESE A DAY!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!
GEEZ!
EVERY-BODY'S BEING SO RUDE!
MWAH!
HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
SCHOOL STORE

I AM SO SORRY! I OFFER YOU THIS! PLEASE DON'T CURSE ME!!!
...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. THIS GUY WHO BUMPED INTO ME TEARFULLY GAVE ME THAT ONE FOR SOME REASON.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GET ONE FOR ME TOO.

YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON WHO STICKS UP FOR ME, SHIRAHANA-SAN...
SORRY, THAT WASN'T A RUMOR— IT WAS TRUE!

WHY DOES EVERYONE BELIEVE THOSE SUPER-STITIOUS RUMORS?
IT'S SO SILLY TO SAY YOU'RE CURSED ...
IT'S SO MEAN... YOU'RE JUST A NORMAL GIRL...

HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE EATING LUNCH WITH ME EVERY DAY?
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY ...


YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO LOOK OUT FOR ME EVERY DAY. YOU CAN EAT WITH OTHER GIRLS SOMETIMES, YOU KNOW?
...BETTER THAN SOMEONE WITH A REPUTATION AS BAD AS MINE.
I'M SURE THERE ARE BETTER PEOPLE FOR YOU TO EAT WITH...

BUT...
FWISH
BUT...
...I'M NOT GOING OUT OF MY WAY AT ALL.

THROB
THROB
THROB
HEAVY ...!!
YEOWCH ...!!
WHAT IN THE HECK ...!?
!!?
WHOMP
IF SHE IS HERE, THEN THIS MUST BE THAT "SCHOOL" PLACE, EH?
AH! CURRY BREAD! MINE!
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE!!?
SIT
むくり
HM?
AH!
HINOME-ONEE-CHAN!
GEEEEEEEEEH!

OW, OW, OW, OW, OW, OW! THAT HURTS!
PINCH

IT WOULD SEEM HE FELT THE PRESENCE OF ONE IN THIS AREA...
I WAS TRAINING THE PUP IN "MAGA! DETECTION."
NOM
NOM

FRIENDS OF YOURS?
JOLT
I DON'T NEED YOU MAKING TROUBLE AT MY SCHOOL TOO!
WHISPER
SCRAM!!
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER

GREETINGS. HOW POLITE, UNLIKE A CERTAIN SAVAGE WOMAN I KNOW...
I AM IMHOTEP.
OH, I SEE! PLEASED TO MEET YOU. I'M SHIRAHANA.
MURMUR
MURMUR
BOW
OMIGOSH! SHE BELIEVED HIM!

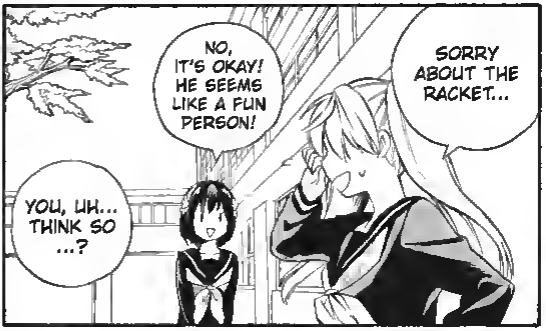
PAT
PAT
GRIND
THIS IS AAALL A MIX-UP! ☆ NEEEVER SEEN HIM IN MY LIFE! ☆
I AM FRIEND NUMBER ONE.

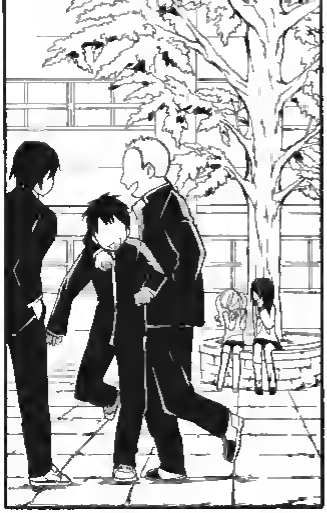
I WAS MERELY EXCHANGING GREETINGS WITH HER.
BUT THAT TURN OF PHRASE...
LISTEN, YOU!! SHIRAHANA-SAN IS ONE OF THOSE "NORMAL PEOPLE." DON'T DRAG HER INTO OUR WEIRD WORLD!!
WHISPER
WHISPER

MY FIRST VICTORY ...!
YOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
DRAG
HEH...

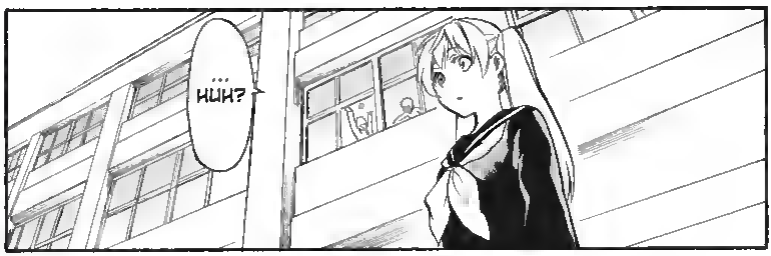
SENSEEE!! WE'VE GOT A TRESPASSER OVER HERE!!!
YOU JUST ADMITTED THAT YOU ARE NOT A NORMAL PERSON, DIDN'T YOU?
TOOOLD YOU SOOO!

...I'M JEALOUS.


NO, IT'S OKAY! HE SEEMS LIKE A FUN PERSON!
SORRY ABOUT THE RACKET...
YOU, UH... THINK SO ...?

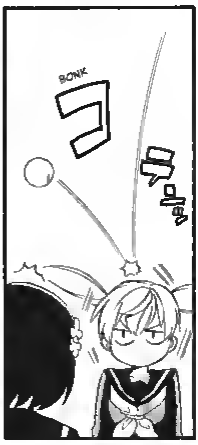


I WISH I HAD A FRIEND WHO COULD BE THAT RELAXED WITH ME.


...
HUH?

I'LL GET THAT FOR YOU!
SAY YOU'RE SORRY...!
FOR REAL!? THANKS, SHIRAHANA-SAN!

OH MAAAN!
GEH! IT HIT HAWAKATA !!
EX-CUSE ME!
HAWA-KATA-SAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
TODAY IS SO NOT MY DAY...


BONK
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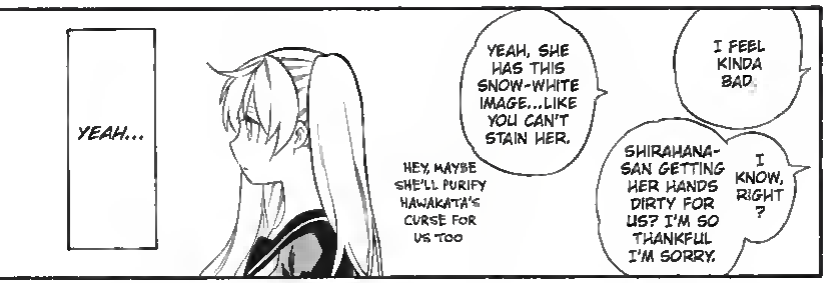
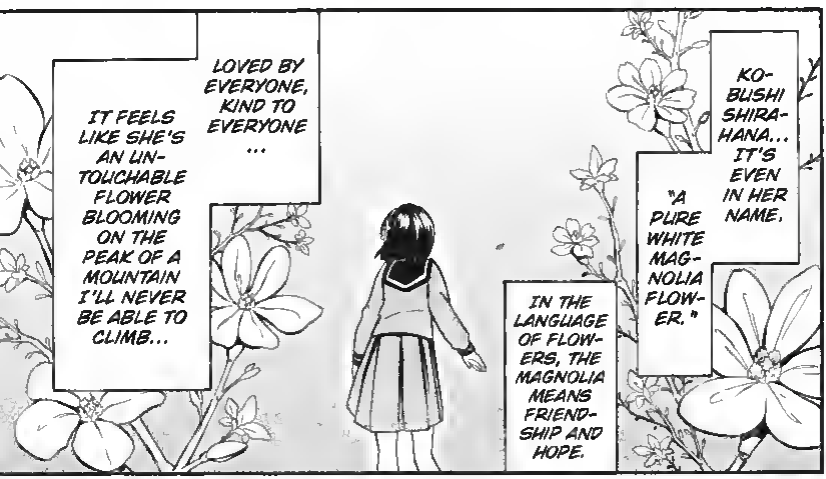
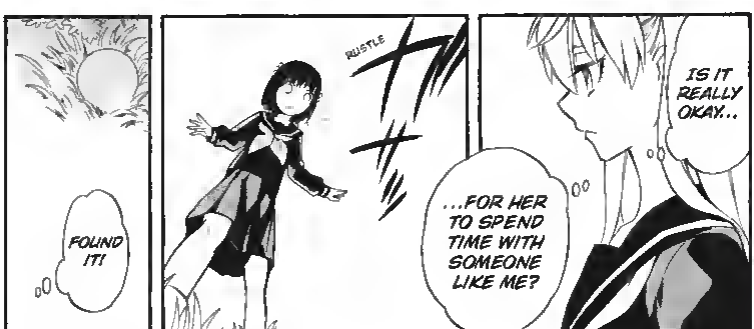
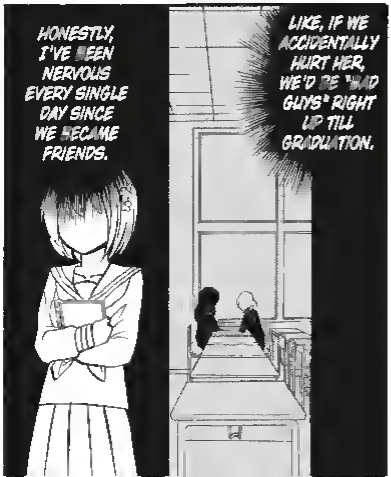

YEAH...
HEY, MAYBE SHE'LL PURIFY HAWAKATA'S CURSE FOR US TOO
YEAH, SHE HAS THIS SNOW-WHITE IMAGE...LIKE YOU CAN'T STAIN HER.
I FEEL KINDA BAD.
SHIRAHANA-SAN GETTING HER HANDS DIRTY FOR US? I'M SO THANKFUL I'M SORRY.
I KNOW, RIGHT?


KO-BUSHI SHIRA-HANA... IT'S EVEN IN HER NAME.
"A PURE WHITE MAG-NOLIA FLOW-ER."
IN THE LANGUAGE OF FLOW-ERS, THE MAGNOLIA MEANS FRIEND-SHIP AND HOPE.
LOVED BY EVERYONE, KIND TO EVERYONE ...
IT FEELS LIKE SHE'S AN UN-TOUCHABLE FLOWER BLOOMING ON THE PEAK OF A MOUNTAIN I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CLIMB...


IS IT REALLY OKAY...
...FOR HER TO SPEND TIME WITH SOMEONE LIKE ME?
RUSTLE
FOUND IT!

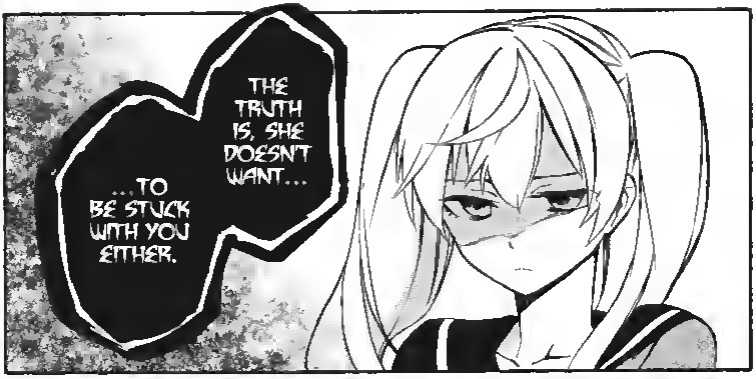
STEP

NOT THAT I'M BLAMING HER, YOU KNOW?
NO, I GET IT. THE WHOLE "PRINCESS SHIRAHANA" ATMOSPHERE GETS TOO HEAVY.

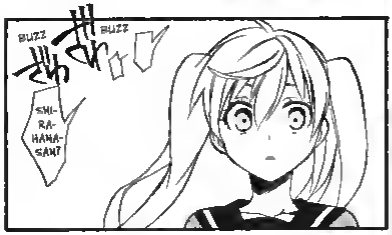

HONESTLY, I'VE BEEN NERVOUS EVERY SINGLE DAY SINCE WE BECAME FRIENDS.
LIKE, IF WE ACCIDENTALLY HURT HER, WE'D BE "BAD GUYS" RIGHT UP TILL GRADUATION.

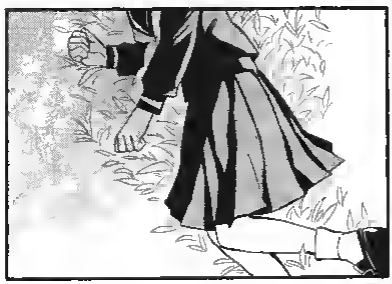
UGH, IT STRESSES ME OUT...

CAN'T SHE, YOU KNOW, BE FRIENDS WITH SOMEBODY ELSE?
EXPLAINING DIARY
OH NO... WHY AM I REMEMBERING THAT NOW?
I-I'M NOT HUNG UP ON IT ANYMORE ...!
IS THE REAL WORLD SAD? IS IT PAINFUL? DO YOU STILL BELIEVE IN HOPE?
LOOK. LOOK AT THAT GIRL...
THAT IS YOUR "WEAKNESS."


THE TRUTH IS, SHE DOESN'T WANT...
...TO BE STUCK WITH YOU EITHER.

THUD


BUZZ
BUZZ
SHI-RA-HANA-SAN?



IF IT'S BECOME TOO MUCH, THEN SINK INTO THE WORLD OF DREAMS.

SHIRA-HANA-SAN!?
WHAT IS IT!?
WAKE UP!
!!!
TOUCH
WHY SHIRA-HANA-SAN ...!?
WHY ...?
FACULTY
THIS SENSA-TION...

...I CAME HERE TO EXORCISE THE MAGAI HIDING IN THIS SCHOOL.
AS I HAVE TOLD YOU AGAIN AND AGAIN...
IRRRRK
SLIDE
WE HAVE AN EMER-GENCY !!
WHAT !?
WH-WH-WH-WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE THEM, OF ALL PEOPLE ..!?
WHO'S YOUR GUARDIAN? WE'RE GOING TO CALL THEM.
IF YOU THINK YOU'LL BE LET OFF THE HOOK 'COS YOU'RE STILL A KID, THINK AGAIN.
"MAGAI"? WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
MAYBE YOU SHOULD LEAVE IT AT THAT.
THE HAWA-KATA FAMILY.
SON, DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE YOU'RE IN? YOU WERE CAUGHT TRESPASSING.

NURSE

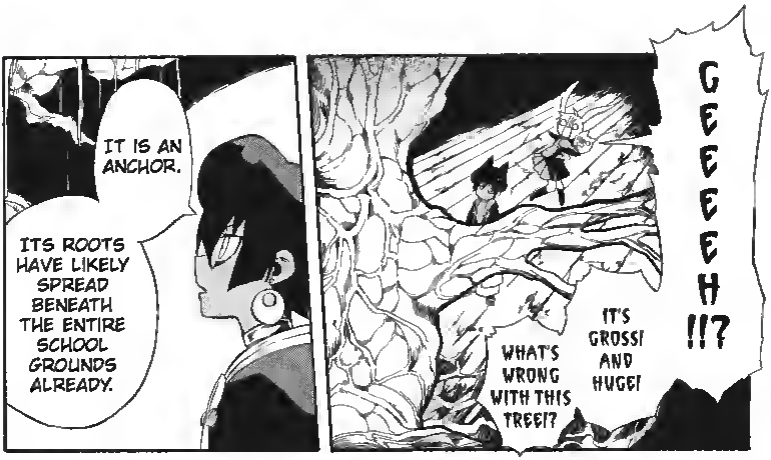
IM, DO YOU THINK IT'S...?
!
SHE'S JUST SLEEPING. HER BREATHING, HER PULSE, THEY'RE ALL NORMAL.
BUT SHE DROPPED OUT OF NOWHERE! Y-YOU HAVE TO DO A BRAIN SCAN, WHATEVER YOU CAN DO!
THERE'S NO SIGN THAT SHE HIT HER HEAD EITHER... IT MUST BE LACK OF SLEEP OR FATIGUE.
PLEASE!
YOU HAVE TO SAVE HER!!!
IT'S A MAGAI, RIGHT?
A MAGAI'S TAKEN HOLD OF SHIRAHANA-SAN

SHE'S THE FIRST AND ONLY FRIEND...
...OF MY ENTIRE LIFE!!
I'LL HELP YOU SEARCH FOR MAGA! OR WHAT-EVER YOU WANT!!
WHAT?
I'M BEGGING YOU!
NOW YOU CHANGE YOUR TONE?
YOU NEED NOT ASK ME TO DO MY JOB.

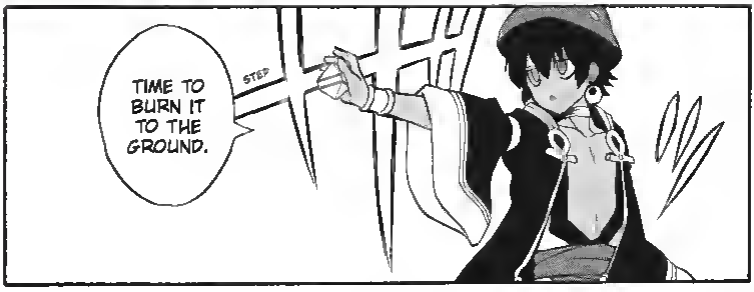
WE WILL UNEARTH THE MAGA! QUICKLY...
...AND SAVE YOUR FRIEND.
YEAH!
...RIGHT!!
HANG IN THERE, SHIRAHANA-SAN! I'M GONNA SAVE YOU!

GLOOM
I DON'T LIKE THIS.
IT'S GIVIN' ME THE HEEBIE-JEEBIES.
NO ONE'S ALLOWED IN ANYMORE.
I THINK THIS IS THE ABANDONED OLD SCHOOL-HOUSE.
THEY THEN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF CRACKS IN THE SOULS... WEAKNESSES OF THE HEART... TO STEAL THE LIFE FORCE WITHIN.
THE MAGAI POSSESS SOMETHING IN THE PHYSICAL REALM AS AN ANCHOR, BY WHICH TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH HUMAN SOULS.

BATTLE


IT IS AN ANCHOR.
ITS ROOTS HAVE LIKELY SPREAD BENEATH THE ENTIRE SCHOOL GROUNDS ALREADY.
GEEEEH!!?
IT'S GROSS! AND HUGE!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS TREE!?

IF IT IS LEFT ALONE...
...THERE WILL NOT BE A SINGLE SURVIVOR IN THIS SCHOOL


TIME TO BURN IT TO THE GROUND.
STEP

FLASH
PURIFICATION BOX—
STAFF MODE!!!
IMHOTEP...!!?
IT CHANGED SHAPE!?

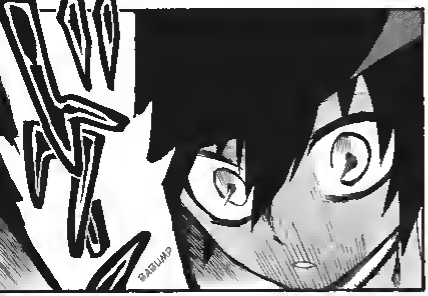
WHAT ARE YOUUU DOING HEEERE!!!?
STAND BACK.
SWIP
SWOOOOM
AAARGH!
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT WILL DO FOR THE FIRST TEST RUN.
WOOOW! YOU'RE LIKE A REAL WIZARD!
UNNNGH.. WHAT IS THIS FIRE!? IT'S EVEN BURNING MY SOUL..!!?
TWIRL
TWIRL

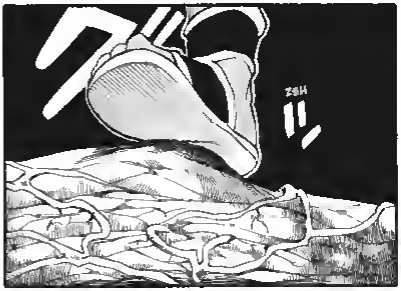
I CAN ALSO WIELD THE ABILITIES OF THE MAGAI SEALED INSIDE IT AS MY OWN MAGIC!
MY PURIFICATION BOX DOES MORE THAN MERELY COLLECT MAGAI.
SMASH
I WILL SNAP YOUR ACCURSED TWIG IN HALF WITH MY LEGS!!
IMPUDEEEENCE!!!!
SNAP
CRACK!
GYAAAAH!!

NOW, COME AND GET ME!!
SIGH
BAM
.....SUCH A HALFHEARTED IMITATION...
HALLUCINATION VENOM MAGAI SERKET
WHAT...!?
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN PASS YOURSELF OFF AS SERKET LIKE THAT?
SERKET IS A SCORPION GODDESS, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW.

DIE, IMHOTEP!!
SNAP
CRACK
AAHHH... YOU DISAP-POINT ME.
APPEARANCE AND PERSONALITY ARE ONE THING, BUT TO MISTAKE EVEN HER SEX?

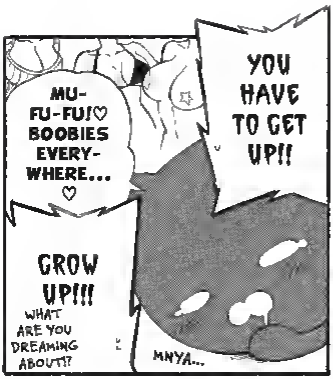
SNAP
THOOM
SNAP
CRACK
CRACK
POP
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP

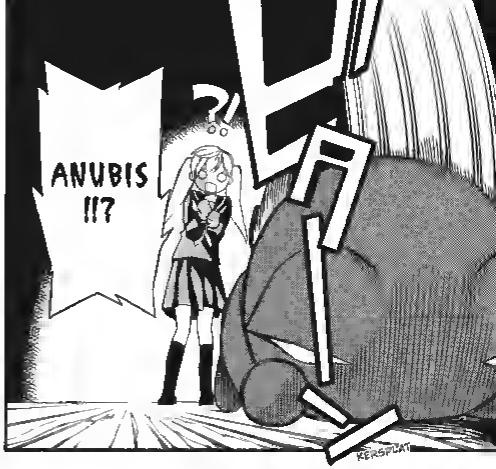

BADUMP

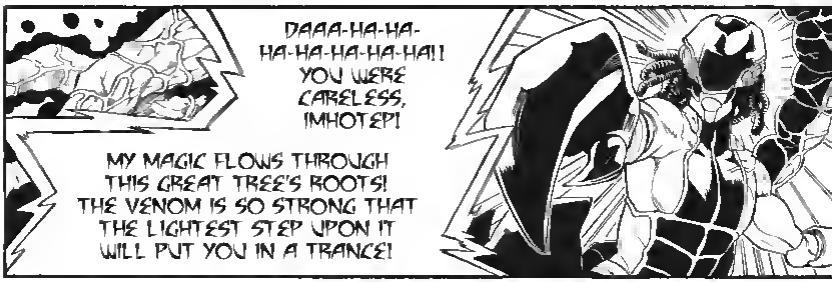

ZSH

I'LL RESCUE YOU !!!
IM !!
SCURRY
SCURRY
SCURRY
STEP

TOPPLE
OOO~ OMIGOSH! THIS IS BAD, RIGHT!?

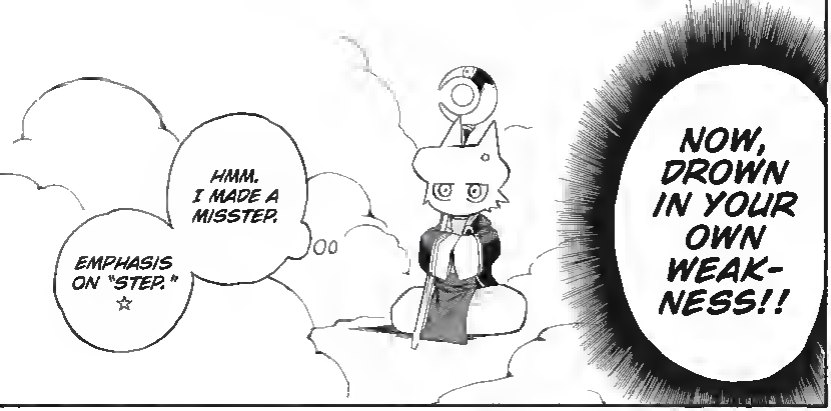

MU-FU-FU♡ BOOBIES EVERY-WHERE... ♡
YOU HAVE TO GET UP!!
GROW UP!!!
WHAT ARE YOU DREAMING ABOUT!?
MNYA...


ANUBIS !!?
KERSPLAT


DAAA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!! YOU WERE CARELESS, IMHOTEP!
MY MAGIC FLOWS THROUGH THIS GREAT TREE'S ROOTS! THE VENOM IS SO STRONG THAT THE LIGHTEST STEP UPON IT WILL PUT YOU IN A TRANCE!

A DREAM OF DELIGHT? OF PLEASURE? OR A DREAM OF DESPAIR? HUMANS ARE OVERPOWERED SO EASILY BY DREAMS.
YOU WILL BE LIKE THE OTHER HUMANS BEFORE YOU.

GLEAM
NOW, WHAT KIND OF DREAM WILL YOU HAVE?


NOW, DROWN IN YOUR OWN WEAK-NESS!!
HMM. I MADE A MISSTEP.
EMPHASIS ON "STEP." ☆

VERY WELL. I ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE.
SEEK OUT THIS SO-CALLED "WEAKNESS" IN ME...
TRY AND CONSUME THE GREAT IMHOTEP'S SOUL, WHATEVER YOU ARE.

FWOOSH
YOU...

WAKE UUUUP !!!
THONK
G- GIVE IT BACK.
?
WHAT'S A LEGENDARY GREAT PRIEST LIKE YOU DOING, LOSING TO SOME MAGAI PHONY!?
YOU HAVE TO SAVE SHIRAHANA-SAN, REMEMBER!?
DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH. HE HAS BEEN CONSUMED BY THE WEAKNESS IN HIS HEART.
EVEN THE GREAT IMHOTEP WAS BUT A MERE HUMAN IN THE END.
!!
DOOSH
DOOSH

SWOOSH
AAAARGH!
GIVE! IT! BACK!
YOU SUCKED OUT SHIRA-HANA-SAN'S SOUL.
HUH?
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
...THEN PERHAPS I SHALL REMIND YOU.
IF YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN WHAT I AM...
WHO DID YOU SAY WAS A MERE HUMAN?

HOW!?
THERE'S NO WAKING UP FROM MY SPELL...!
BECOME PART OF MY MAGIC.
YOU IMPOSTERS ARE ALL MINE.
AAAA

WHAT ARE THOSE?
ACK!
HUH? WHERE'D THE BOOBIES GO?
GLOW
WHY DO THEY GIVE ME SPECIAL TREATMENT?
POKE
EVERYONE TREATS ME LIKE A PRINCESS.
THEY ALWAYS HAVE.
STOP IT ...!
WHAT DO THEY SEE WHEN THEY LOOK AT
THERE'S NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT ME.

KERUHAH
I-I'M NOT GLASS THAT WILL SHATTER FROM ONE TOUCH, YOU KNOW?
BOP
BOP
SHIRAHANA-SAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU HIT SHIRAHANA-SAN! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
URGH...
HEY! HOW ABOUT APOLOGIZING, HUH?
L-LET IT GO. YOU DON'T WANNA MESS WITH HER...
HAWAKATA-SAN!
JOST

THANK YOU...
...FOR THROWING THE BALL AT ME!
NO ONE EVER AIMS AT ME...
I ALWAYS WONDERED IF THERE WAS ANY POINT IN ME BEING THERE.
SO...IT MADE ME HAPPY
WEIRD, RIGHT? TEE-HEE-HEE...!
W—
WILL YOU EAT LUNCH WITH ME AFTER CLASS?
TROMP
TROMP
HAWAKATA-SAN!
I...
...WANT TO BE...

HUH? WHY AM I...?
HAWAKATA-SAN...?
YOU'RE AWAKE! THANK GOOD-NESS!!
...FRIENDS.
GOSH, WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU? YOU'RE CRYING...
SNRRRF...
WE CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER WITH HAWAKATA-SAN HERE.
ARE YOU OKAY!? DOES YOUR HEAD HURT!?
DO YOU FEEL SICK AT ALL!?
HUH? I'M FINE.
...EVERY SINGLE DAY!
I'LL ASK YOU TO JOIN ME...
WILL YOU KEEP EATING LUNCH WITH ME!?

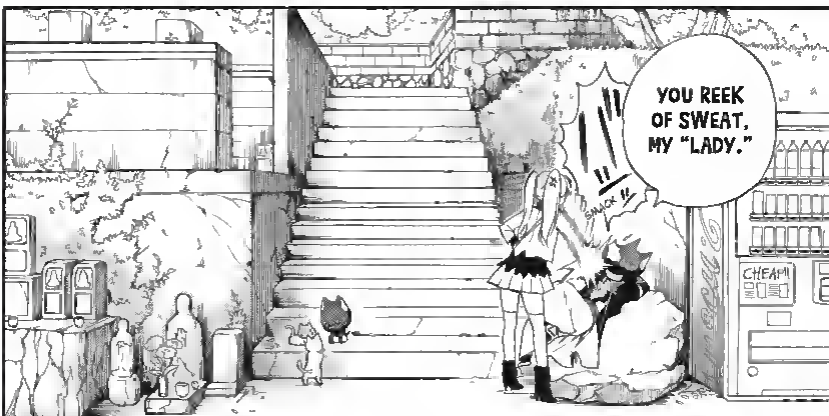
OKAY!!
I DID.
OH, OKAY. SO IT'S ONLY ONEE-CHAN... THOUGHT SO...
WAIT, WHAAAT!? YOU DOOO?
FRIENDS ARE NICE.
HEY, IM, DO YOU HAVE ANY FRIENDS OTHER THAN ONEE-CHAN?

WHO IS IIIT? WHAT'RE THEY LIIIKE?
HERE I GO, HINOME-CHAN!
BRING IT ON, KOBUSHI!
FWEET
SHAKE SHAKE
JUST SOME ANCIENT ONES WHO HAPPENED TO BE PASSING THROUGH
WHO ARE YOU TWO?
HEY, I THINK THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN SHIRAHANA-SAN THROW.
GOOD LUCK, SHIRAHANA-SAAAN!!
APPEAR-ANCES CAN BE DECEIVING ...
FWEEET
EEEEEEK! HINOME-CHAAAN!
KERSMACK

SLOSH
SLOSH
WHY ...?
SNEAK
HOW...
SLOSH
... DID IT COME TO THIS?

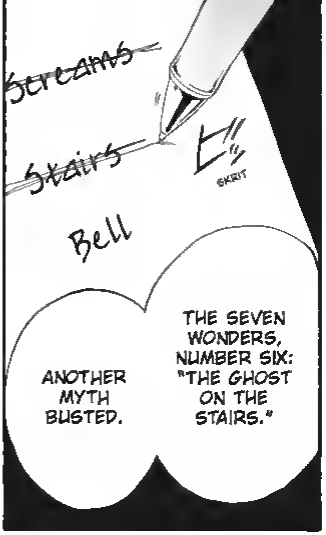
THIS WAS NOT HOW IT WAS MEANT TO BE ...!

IM.
WE...
...WERE NEVER SUPPOSED TO BE FRIENDS, HUH?
IMHOTEP!!



SCROLL 4: DOORBELL TO HEAVEN

ONE, TWO, THREE...
ONE, TWO, THREE...
HFF..
HFF..
ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU CHECKED IT THOROUGHLY ...?
OH, I DID!! WHILE YOU WERE DOZING!!
MY LEGS FEEL LIKE JELLO!!
I CHECKED IT A ZILLION TIMES!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE

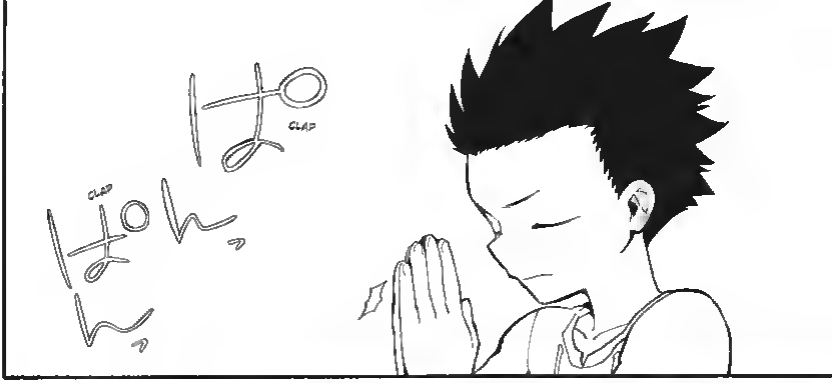

Screams
Stairs
Bell
SKRIT
ANOTHER MYTH BUSTED.
THE SEVEN WONDERS, NUMBER SIX: "THE GHOST ON THE STAIRS."

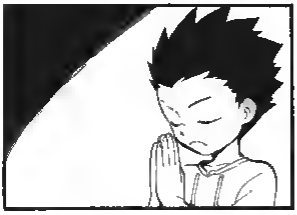
AT ANY RATE, THIS HAS ZILCH TO DO WITH MAGAI.
THAT MADE SOMEBODY'S IMPROMPTU GHOST STORY SOUND TRUE ENOUGH TO SPREAD. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
THERE'S A GRAVEYARD NEXT TO THIS SHRINE, RIGHT?

LEAVE IT TO ME!!
THAT'S MY AREA OF EXPERTISE.
TIPSTER
ONE CANNOT BE TOO SURE.
WE MUST INVESTIGATE ANYTHING THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE RELATED TO THE MAGAI—EVEN TALL TALES—LEAVING NO STONE UNTURNED!
THAT IS A SPECIALIST FOR YOU.
WHY ARE WE GOING DOWN THE SEVEN WONDERS LIST IN THE FIRST PLACE?
THESE LOCAL MYTHS ARE USUALLY BOGUS.

OH DEAR, IS THIS YOUR FIRST VENDING MACHINE? SUCH IS THE POWER OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY.
WHEW...
A BOX THAT PRODUCES DRINKS...?
MINE!
WHAT'S THAT? YOU'RE THIRSTY? THEN HOW ABOUT YOU GO GIVE THAT STAIRCASE A SPIN!?
AND YOU DON'T HAVE A SINGLE YEN, DO YOU?
HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH!
BUT TOO BAD FOR YOU! THIS "BOX" ONLY WORKS WITH MODERN MONEY!
WHAP
HM...
YOU MUTT!!
SNATCH
HEY! GIVE IT BACK!!
RUSTLE

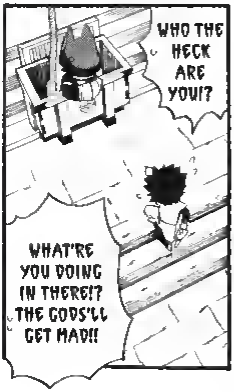
DASH
LAME!
SNEAK
SNEAK
PLINCH
DON'T YOU DARE LET HIM GET AWAY.
AFTER HIM.
CLANG
CLANG
CLANG


CLAP
CLAP



I WANNA SEE YOU...
...MOM.

...?


WHO THE HECK ARE YOU!?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THERE!? THE GODS'LL GET MAD!!

WHOOOA!!?
?!
KACLUNK
I FOUND YOU, NAUGHTY BOY!
NANA

DOOM
ゴゴゴゴ
HUH?
I WOULD BE MORE WORRIED ABOUT APOLOGIZING IF I WERE YOU, LITTLE ONE.
GYAAAAAAAAAAAA
AH!
FLAP
FLAP
SFX. NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE
IF YOU WANNA ASK THE GODS FOR SOMETHING, USE YOUR OWN ALLOWANCE, NOT MINE. GOT IT?
EXCUSE ME!?
TCH. YOU WEREN'T S'POSED TO CHASE ME ALL THE WAY IN HERE.
STING
.....
I'M REAL SORRY, OKAY?
YOU GUYS DUNNO THE RUMORS ABOUT THIS PLACE?
SAY WHAT?

THIS IS MISORA SHRINE.
THERE WAS A MURDER HERE A LOOONG TIME AGO.

I'VE NEVER SEEN 'IM.
AIN'T TRUE THOUGH.

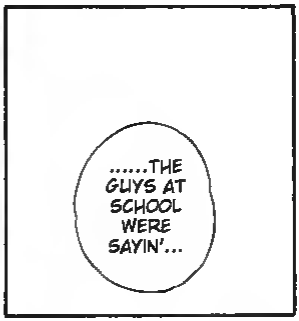
THEY SAY THE GHOST OF A MAN WITH A BLOODY SWORD STILL WANDERS THE GROUNDS TO THIS DAAAAY!
...SO EVERYBODY STEERS CLEAR.
EEK!

YOU LITTLE MENACE!
AGH! ARGH!

"HEAVEN'S DOORBELL."
IS THIS THE BELL?
THE SEVEN WONDERS, NUMBER SEVEN— "HEAVEN'S DOORBELL IN MISORA SHRINE."
HUH?
NOOGIE NOOGIE
FOR YOU TO COME SPECIFICALLY TO THIS SHRINE TO PRAY DESPITE THE SCARY STORIES, IT MUST BE SPECIAL, YES?
WH-WHY'RE YOU ASKIN' ME?
UH...

..."IF YOU RING THE BELL AND WISH FOR IT...
"...YOU CAN SEE SOMEONE WHO'S GONE TO HEAVEN."

WHATEVER YOU KNOW IS ENOUGH. SPEAK.


.....THE GUYS AT SCHOOL WERE SAYIN'...

MY MOM'S VOICE !!
I KNOW 'COS I HEARD IT MYSELF!
NO, IT'S NOT!! THIS ONE'S REAL!!
SO IT'S JUST ANOTHER GHOST STORY, LIKE THOSE STAIRS.
HAHA~!

D'YOU KNOW ABOUT THE BELL AT MISORA SHRINE!?
HEY, HEY!
ONE WEEK AGO...

GO TELL THE BELL YOU WANNA SEE YOUR MOM AND FILL US IN ON WHAT HAPPENS AFTER!
RYUU!
THEY SAY THAT IF YOU MAKE A WISH THERE, YOU CAN MEET SOMEBODY WHO WENT TO HEAVEN!
HE USED TO BE COOL, BUT NOT ANYMORE.
PULLING PRANKS IS THE ONLY THING HE'S GOOD AT.
WHAT!? C'MON YOU'RE NO FUN!!
THAT'S STUPID.
RYUU, ARE YOU NEVER GONNA LEAVE TACKS ON THE TEACHER'S CHAIR AND STUFF AGAIN?
SCHOOL'S BOOORING.
YOU'LL BE THE DEATH OF ME YET...
RYUU! YOU PULLED A PRANK ON YOUR TEACHER AGAIN!?

EVEN IF I TRY HARD...
CLICK
CLICK
...IT'S NOT LIKE ANYBODY'S GONNA BE BUSTING WITH PRIDE ANYMORE
SFX: NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE
DO YOU THINK THAT'S AN EXCUSE!?
OW, OW, OW, OW, OW, OWWW!!
WHONK
IF YOU MEAN YOUR DAD, HE'S PROUD OF YOU UP IN HEAVEN.
BUT IT'S HAPPIER TO BELIEVE THERE IS, RIGHT?
OH, COME ON!
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS HEAVEN!

Y'KNOW HOW YOU PRAY IN FRONT OF HIS PHOTO EVERY DAY ...?
I KNOW YOUR DAD'S UP THERE, WATCHING OVER YOU EVERY SINGLE DAY TOO.
YEAH.
OKAY?
CAN YOU TRY TO BE A GOOD BOY?
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
ROAR
MOM!
MOOOM!!
NO! MOM!!
PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST SAVE RYUJI!

MOOOOOOM!!
IF THERE REALLY IS A HEAVEN...
...THEN ANSWER ME, MOM.
RYUU ...?
ナムラン
ナムラン
CLANG
CLANK

RYUU, IS THAT YOU...?
...!
MOM!?

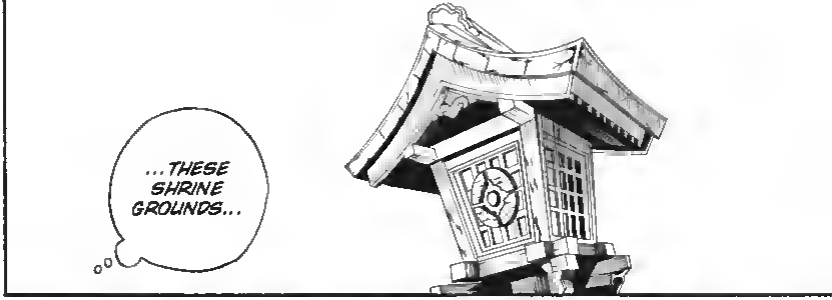
...I SEE.

TODAY COULDA BEEN THE DAY I SAW MY MOM!!
BUT YOU MADE THE GODS MAD BY HIDING IN THE OFFERING BOX!!
YOU ARE LUCKY THEN.
HUHHH?
YOU HAVE BEEN SPARED FROM DEATH AT THE HANDS OF A MAGAI.
RYUU.
NEVER RING THIS BELL AGAIN.
HUH !?
SHAZAM

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING !?
STOPPP !!!
YOU TOO? WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
YOU'RE GOING TO DESTROY THE BELL, RIGHT!?
GLOW
YES. AND?
LOOK, YOU!! HE'S PUTTING ALL HIS HOPE IN THAT BELL! DON'T YOU SEE THAT!?
I DO. THAT MAKES IT ALL THE MORE DANGEROUS.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!!
RIGHT NOW, IT'S ALL HE HAS.
IT'S THE ONLY THING HE CAN CLING TO...
...EVEN IF HE KNOWS IT'S BAD NEWS!
...THEN...
...CAN YOU DO SOMETHING TO REMEDY THIS?

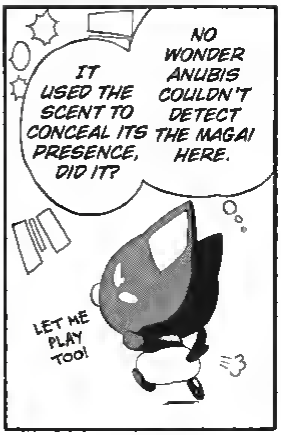
CAN YOU SAVE RYUU'S LIFE...
...WITHOUT ROBBING HIM OF HOPE?
RYUU!
WHADDAYA WANT? DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE WE'RE FRIENDS!
YOU WANT A COIN?
THEN FIGHT ME FOR IT!
IF YOU WIN, YOU CAN HAVE MY COIN!
IF I WIN... UMM, WHAT DO I WANT...? I DIDN'T THINK THAT FAR AHEAD...
WELL, WHATEVER. LET'S JUST DO IT!
...HUH?
?

HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! HOH! OHH!
SO, HOW DO YOU WANNA DUKE IT OUT? CAT'S CRADLE? JUMP ROPE?
I SHOULD WARN YOU... NOBODY BEATS ME AT SOLO GAMES!!!
HA! YOU A LONER, ONEE-CHAN?
WHAT!?
WHAT!? YOU DON'T EVEN MAKE ANY SENSE!! AN OLD LADY PICKING ON A GRADE SCHOOLER.. AREN'T YOU ASHAMED OF YOURSELF?
HAAH
OH YEAH? THEN WHY'RE YOU HANGING OUT IN A HAUNTED SHRINE ALL ALONE, HUH!?
HEY! TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE ...!
WHAT!? I'M NOT LIKE YOU!!
HM, HOW COME YOU'RE ALL IRRITATED?
SCOFF.
I AM NOT.

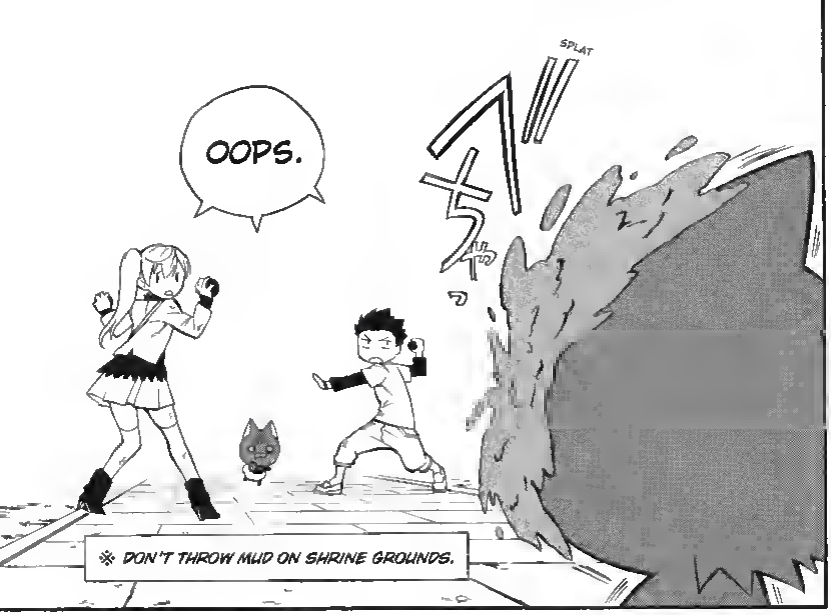

...THESE SHRINE GROUNDS...

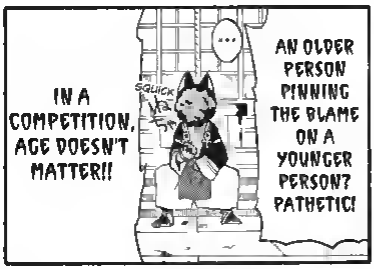
THEY REEK OF DEATH.

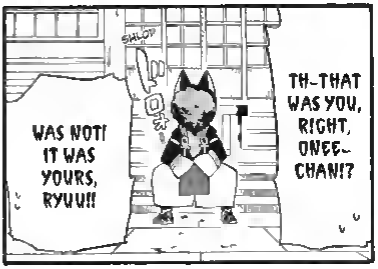
IT WAS MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PEOPLE WHO DIED HERE.
BUT...THIS FEELING...


IT USED THE SCENT TO CONCEAL ITS PRESENCE, DID IT?
NO WONDER ANUBIS COULDN'T DETECT THE MAGAI HERE.
LET ME PLAY TOO!

...HAPPENED HERE LONG AGO?
WHAT IN THE NAMES OF THE GODS


OOPS.
SPLAT
※ DON'T THROW MUD ON SHRINE GROUNDS.


IN A COMPETITION, AGE DOESN'T MATTER!!
SQUICK
AN OLDER PERSON PINNING THE BLAME ON A YOUNGER PERSON? PATHETIC!


WAS NOT! IT WAS YOURS, RYUU!!
SWLOP
TH-THAT WAS YOU, RIGHT, ONEE-CHAN!?

HA! YOU DIDN'T DENY THE "NO FRIENDS" PART! CALLED IT!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING AN OLD HAG!? I'M ONLY FIFTEEN!
WHOOSH
YOU STOP THROWING IT AT ME FIRST, NO-FRIENDS OLD HAG!
I NEVER AGREED TO YOUR DUMB COMPETI-TION!
GRAAAH! YOU TICK ME OOOOFF!
WHOOSH
THEN STOP THROWING MUD!
WHOOSH

※ DON'T THROW MUD ON SHRINE GROUNDS.

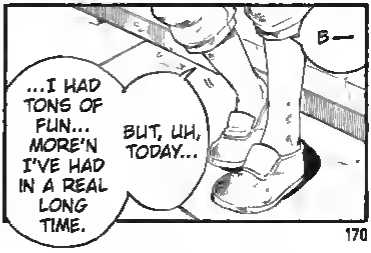
YOUR MUDSLINGING GAVE WAY TO MUD SLINGING...
...HM?
NOPE ...
ドロドロ...
MUDDY
WE NEVER DID DECIDE ON A COMPETITION, DID WE...?
?
TODAY'S A DRAW, THEN! WE'LL PICK THIS BACK UP TOMORROW!
GOTCHA.
I GOTTA GO BEFORE I GET IN TROUBLE WITH MY AUNT.
YIKES!
AREN'T YOU GOING HOME?

KEEP YOUR MONEY.
I'LL PLAY WITH YOU AGAIN, ONEE-CHAN.

I KINDA HAD A FEELING...
...THAT I SHOULDN'T BE RINGING THAT BELL.

OKAY!
SEE YA!

BUT I WANTED TO SEE MOM SO BAD...
...THAT I EVEN STOLE MONEY.


B—
BUT, UH, TODAY...
...I HAD TONS OF FUN... MORE'N I'VE HAD IN A REAL LONG TIME.

AWW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT. HE'S OUR FRIEND NOW!
MUST WE PLAY WITH THE CHILD AGAIN?
YOU'RE NOT NUMBER ONE...
...BUT I DO CONSIDER YOU A FRIEND TOO, IMHOTEP.
...WAS 'COS YOU KNOCKED SOME SENSE INTO ME.
THE REASON I LET GO OF MY MAGA! BOX...
OH GEEZ. I'M COVERED IN MUD.
MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP BY THE BATHHOUSE ON THE WAY HOME...
BATH? BAAATH!?

I'M GONNA TRY TO BE GOOD AGAIN.
SORRY, MOM.
CLAP
パン
...JUST WATCH ME FROM UP THERE, OKAY?
YOU...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, RYUU?
WAIT
FREEZE
RYUU?
SPIN
VAMO.
I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE ME BACK THEN!!!
DON'T GO
THE TRUTH IS, I

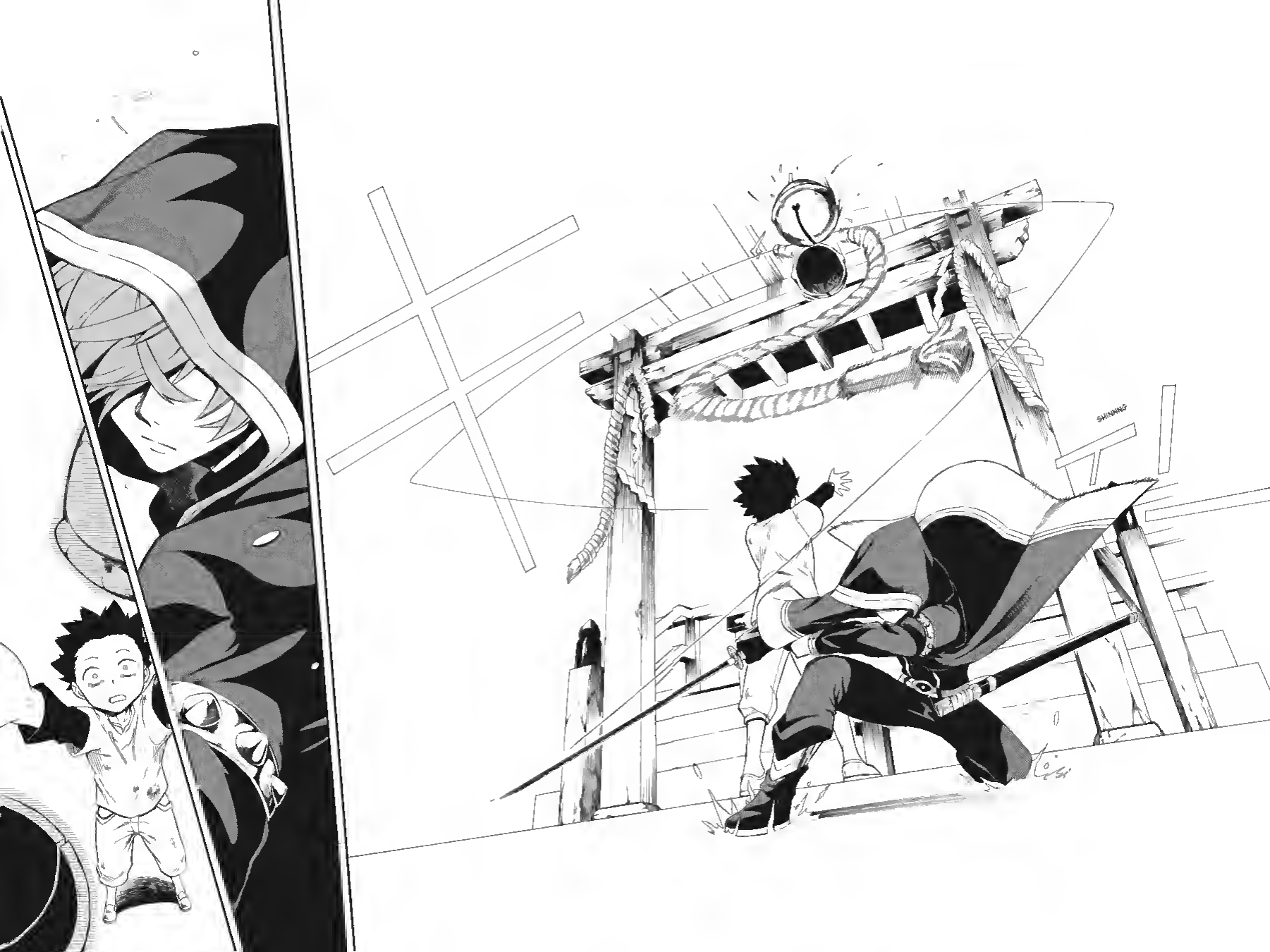
SPRINKLE
SPRINKLE
DON'T GO!! PLEASE, RYUU!!!!
OOPS. IT SAYS NO DOGS ALLOWED.
WHUH!?
WAAAH! IS THIS THE BATH-HOUSE !?
WHAT IS IT?
...HUH?
IM, TAKE YOUR SANDALS OFF.
I'LL GIVE YOU A BATH WHEN WE GET HOME, SO WAIT HERE.
I'M NOT A DOG! I'M AN ANUBIS! I'M A (FUTURE) GOD!

DASH
IM !!?
THE COIN I HAD IN MY POCKET... IT'S GONE...
FSSHH
...I SHOULD HAVE DESTROYED IT FROM THE START.
I KNEW...

I GOTTA TELL HER I'M SORRY.
TUG
I GOTTA SEE MY MOM.
RYUU, YOU DO NOT NEED TO FEEL GUILTY...
YOUR MOTHER WANTED YOU TO LIVE.
YOU GUYS COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL.
チャリ!
KACHINK
I KILLED MY MOM, OKAY!!?
BUT THEN IT WENT ALL WRONG!!
...I TRIED TO COOK FOR HER AS A SURPRISE ...!
ON DAD AND MOM'S WEDDING ANNIVER-SARY...

IT WASN'T S'POSED TO BE LIKE THAT!!!
YOU'D NEVER UNDER-STAND...
...HOW IT FEELS TO WATCH SOMEBODY YOU LOVE DIE 'COS OF YOU!!!

EVEN IF GETTIN' TO SEE SOMEONE WHO WENT TO HEAVEN...
...ACTUALLY MEANS DYING AND GOIN' TO HEAVEN YOURSELF...
...I DON'T CARE!
DON'T STOP ME!!
RYUU! DON'T !!
I WANNA SEE MY MOM!!
CLANG


SHINING

DAMN YOU!
PEER
I WAS SO CLOSE!!
I'LL KILL YOU!!
BRRAAAH!

THIS ISN'T YOUR NEST.
TACHI

SHPAANG
HE TOOK OUT THE MAGAI IN AN INSTANT!? WHAT IS HE...!?
YANK
!?
WH—
WHY'D YOU DO THAT, YOU JERK!?
THE SAME ROBES... AS IM'S ...?

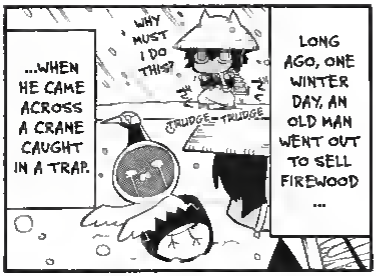
IF YOU WANT TO SEE A DEAD PERSON SO BADLY, GO DIG UP A GRAVE.
THIS PLACE ISN'T FOR CALLING THE SPIRITS OF THE DEAD.
RYUU!!
WHUMP
SSHHH
CRINKLE

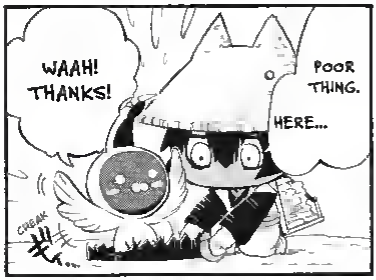
HEY, YOU ...!
YOU THERE.
THOSE GAR-MENTS.
YOU ARE FROM THE AMEN PRIESTHOOD, ARE YOU NOT?
YOUR WORDS JUST NOW..
SUCH WORDS SHOULD NOT COME FROM THE MOUTH OF ONE WHO SERVES THE GODS AND LEADS PEOPLE TO THE TRUTH.
NAME YOUR-SELF.
WHO ARE YOU?
THE GODS USE THAT PATH.
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TREAD ON IT.

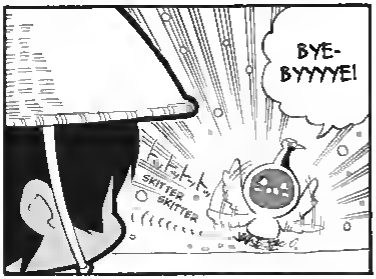
PAANG
SPLASH

!!
KASNAP
WHAT ARE YOU PLAY-ING AT?
I COULD ASK YOU THE SAME.
SPLASH
SPLASH
DO YOU THINK A MAN WHO DESECRATED THE CREATOR GODS HAS THE RIGHT TO SET FOOT WITHIN THESE SACRED GROUNDS?
WELL, GREAT HERETIC IMHOTEP?
OH YES.
YOU WANTED A NAME?

MISORA SHRINE
AMEN PRIEST-HOOD JAPAN CHAPTER PRIEST ...
...HARUGO MISORA.
I'LL CARRY OUT YOUR DIVINE PUNISHMENT MYSELF.







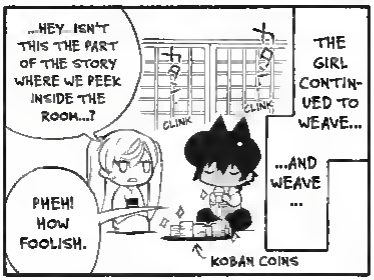
Extra

ACCORDING TO IM

"THE TALE OF THE GRATEFUL CRANE"

IN A FLASH, IT BECAME THE TALK OF THE TOWN AND FETCHED A HIGH PRICE.
THE CLOTH THE GIRL WOVE WAS INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL.

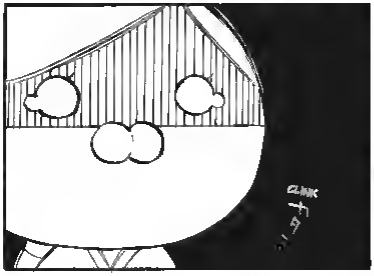
THAT NIGHT, A BEAUTIFUL GIRL SHOWED UP AT THE OLD MAN'S HOUSE.


...HEY, ISN'T THIS THE PART OF THE STORY WHERE WE PEEK INSIDE THE ROOM...?
PHEH! HOW FOOLISH.
CLINK
CLINK
THE GIRL CONTINUED TO WEAVE...
...AND WEAVE ...
KOBAN COINS

OLD WOMAN
GRANDMOTHER, I WANT TO WEAVE CLOTH. PLEASE GIVE ME THREAD!
LONG STORY SHORT, SHE BEGAN TO LIVE THERE. ONE DAY...

...WE WILL LOSE OUR GOLDEN CRANE, YOU KNOW.
ONE, TWO, THREE...
IF WE PEEK NOW...

PLEASE DON'T LOOK INSIDE, OKAY?
SLIDE
I'M GOING TO STAY IN THIS ROOM UNTIL I'M FINISHED.

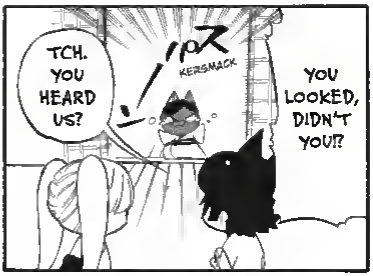

CLINK

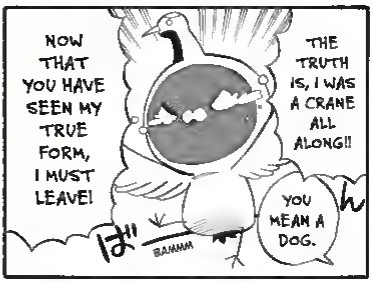
THAT WAS FAST.
KASHACK

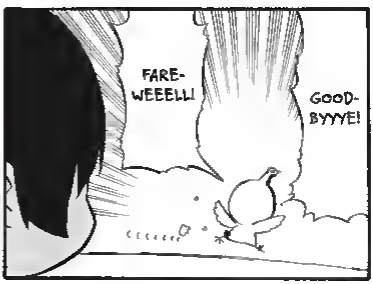
Special Thanks.

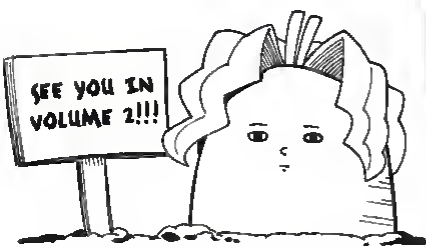
- ARISA YUKIMIYA
- MIKOTO KISARAGI
- UI KIZUKI

MY EDITOR,
YUUICHI SHIMOMURA-SAMA



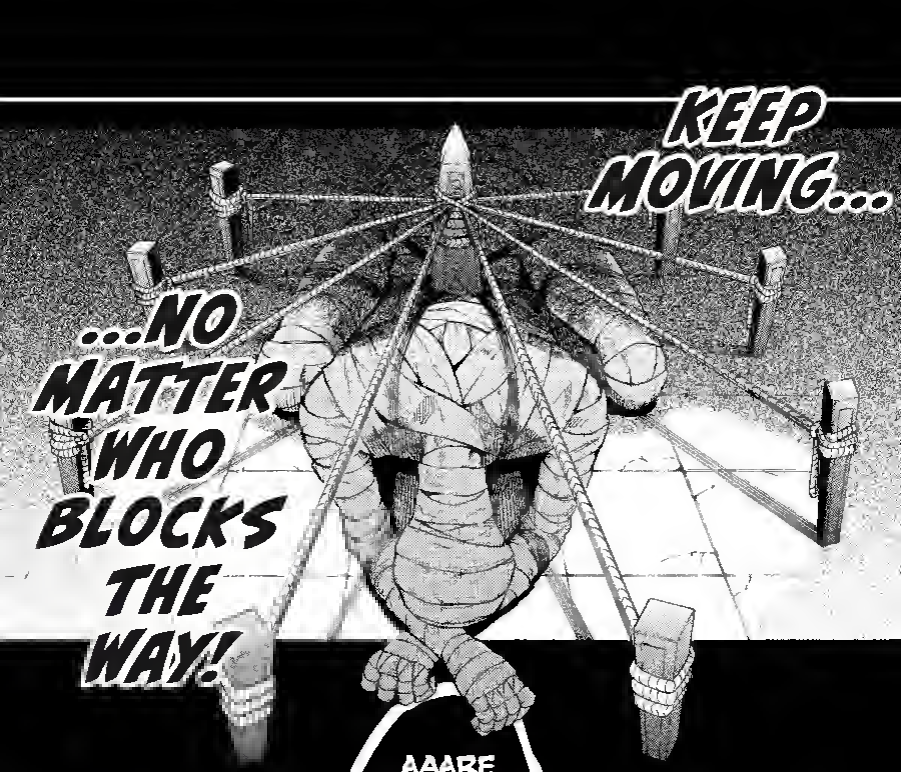


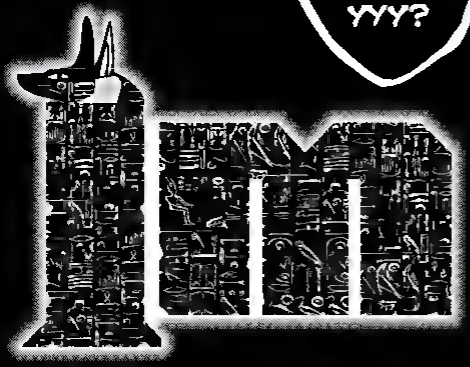




MAKOTO MORISHITA

NEXT VOLUME
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME ...
...ANYONE HAS THANKED ME...!
OR... DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU WERE AWOKEN MERELY TO EXORCISE THE MAGAI?
...CRIME AND PUNISHMENT AWAIT.
I'LL BE YOUR "FRIEND NUMBER ONE"!!
EVEN AFTER WAKING FROM SLUMBER...





2nd VOLUME

COMING SOON!

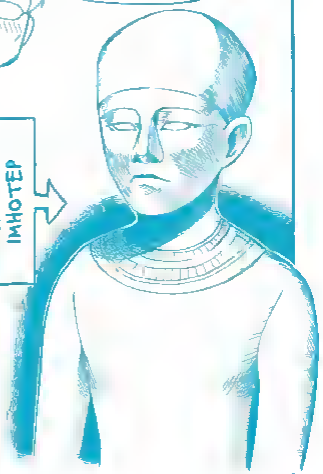
(THE REAL-LIFE)

IMHOTEP-SAMA: WHO KNEW HE WAS SO COOL!!?

BROUGHT TO YOU BY HINOME'S PAPA!!

- HE WAS AN ESTEEMED PRIEST AND CHANCELLOR TO KING DJESER IN ANCIENT EGYPT'S THIRD DYNASTY!
- ON TOP OF THAT, HE'S THE ARCHITECT WHO DESIGNED THE WORLD'S OLDEST PYRAMID! (THE STEPPED PYRAMID OF DJOSER AT SAKKARA)
- HE WAS ALSO A CAPABLE DOCTOR AND WAS POSTHUMOUSLY MADE A DEITY OF MEDICINE!!!

STATUE OF IMHOTEP



BUT HIS TOMB HAS YET TO BE LOCATED. ...MAYBE WE CAN SEARCH FOR IT AGAIN ONCE THINGS CALM DOWN?

BY THE WAY!

GREAT PRIEST IMHOTEP'S TIME (OLD KINGDOM PERIOD, THIRD DYNASTY) AND SUPER-FAMOUS KING TUTANKHAMUN'S TIME (NEW KINGDOM PERIOD, EIGHTEENTH DYNASTY) WERE ABOUT 1300 YEARS APART!!

TO PUT IT IN PERSPECTIVE... IF TUTANKHAMUN HAD BEEN BORN IN THE HEISEI PERIOD (1989 TO PRESENT)... IMHOTEP WOULD BE A PERSON FROM THE NARA PERIOD (710 TO 794)!!?

※ IM IS A WORK OF FICTION. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS, GROUPS, OR EVENTS IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

DRINKING AND SMOKING

TRANSLATION NOTES

Page 9
The **Meiji period** lasted from 1868 to 1912 under the reign of Emperor Meiji.

Page 24
The name **Magai** comes from the Japanese word *magaimono*, meaning "imitation."

Page 24
In **"The Greteful Crena"** ("*Tsuru no Ongaeshi*"), an old man frees a crane from a hunter's trap on a snowy day. The crane disguises itself in the form of a beautiful girl and appears at the home of the old man and his wife. Pretending to have lost her way, the girl is taken in by the old couple. One day, she asks them for thread to weave with but tells them never to look inside the room when she's weaving. Her weaving is so beautiful that selling the cloth makes the old couple rich, but eventually they give in to curiosity and peek inside the room to see a crane plucking its own splendid feathers to weave into the cloth. Her identity discovered, the crane flies away.

Page 103
The kanji for **sun** used in the title of Chapter 3 is also the first kanji in Hinome's name.

Page 117
Kobushi is a species of magnolia native to Japan. Kobushi's family name, **Shirahana**, is written with the characters for "white" and "flower."

by MAKOTO MORISHITA

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Lettering: Rochelle Gancio

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